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OPINION METER

This week's pol

When will the Legislature finally pass FY2011 budget?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Dance and Culture

Korean culture was at its best Monday night as members of the community watched cultural performances in celebration of the 2010 Korean Festival.

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Anticompetitive Practices

The Justice Department on Monday sued the three largest U.S. credit card companies

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Emergency in War

Ambulance drivers risk their lives to try to save people hit by the mortar fire, artillery shells and random gunfire.

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Political parties turn in list of poll workers. PAGE 6

Angel Ray donates to Koblerville Youth Center. PAGE 8

Froilan to step down as House speaker

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday that he will step down as speaker in a month or two but will remain as a member of the 17th Legislature, citing the need for him to work part-time at his brother's engineering consultancy firm to supplement his income.

See FROILAN on Page 4

Tenorio

Governor exempts four DPL employees from shutdown

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued yesterday a third amendment to his original executive order of Sept. 30 to also include four Department of Public Lands personnel from the partial government shutdown since Oct. 1.

"This amendment is necessary and takes effect Oct. 5, 2010 in light of the continuing shutdown to ensure that essential services related to health, safety, and welfare of the people of the CNMI re-

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Legislature remains deadlocked; partial shutdown continues

- House agrees to 8-hour cut with 383 layoffs
- Senate settles with 12-hour cut with passage of revenue-generating bills

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On the fifth day of the CNM government's partial shutdown, House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday that the House leadership is amenable to the Senate's proposed eight-hour work cut per pay period but this includes deleting 383 positions to "balance" the $132 mil-

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- 2 sections at DPS remain closed Page 3
- Checks for scholars also delayed Page 4

NEWEST ROTARIAN HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Rotary Club of Saipan president Glen Perez, right, welcomes the newest member of the Rotary Club, Kenneth D. Pierson, left, while Pierson's wife Crysta and daughter Shyla look on during the group's weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan in Garapan. Pierson, a dentist, is the director of the Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic, which has been serving the CNMI since 1973.

Local

Judiciary lists own 'essential personnel'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Judiciary yesterday issued an administrative order that listed 28 personnel, including the five judges and three justices, as essential as of Oct. 1, the day when the partial government shutdown began as a result of a lack of a balanced budget passed.

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja said although not listed, all federally funded personnel shall continue to work.

There are six federally funded personnel at the Judiciary, including two probation officers.

As of yesterday, approximately 30 employees were not reporting to work. Of those who are reporting, many of their hours have been reduced, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Demapan and Naraja said all justices and judges shall continue to work and shall continue to be compensated pursuant to the NMI Constitution.

They said the Tinian and Rota courthouses will remain open Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30am to 11:30am and on Fridays from 7:30am to 4:30pm, but there will be no regularly scheduled docket at this time.

Demapan and Naraja said the identified services and personnel are subject to change and shall be re-evaluated on every fifth day of closure.

Judges are given discretion to review their dockets and deem any other hearings essential during the course of the shutdown.

Aside from justices and judges, listed as essential are two law clerks of the Supreme Court, three law clerks of the Superior Court, Supreme Court clerk of court, Superior Court clerk of court, Superior Court deputy clerk, two courtroom clerks in Saipan, one courtroom clerk each for Rota and Tinian, three deputy marshals or marshal interns, one Family Court division manager, one cashier's officer personnel, one chief probation officer and four probation officers, one director of courts, and one deputy director of courts (special assistant to the Presiding Judge).

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's executive order, listed only one associate judge and one clerk as among personnel in the Judiciary as exempted from the shutdown.

The executive order said the associate judge shall conduct Gerstein hearings and bail hearings, while the clerk will assist the associate judge with the hearings.

Demapan and Naraja stated in the administrative order that as a coequal branch of the government, the inherent authority of the Judicial Branch mandates that those decisions (shutdown) which ensure that the constitutional duties are fulfilled be made internally.

Thus, they said, on Sept. 15, 2009, the Judicial Council met to define and identify what essential judicial services must remain available to the people and residents of the CNMI and which personnel are required to provide those services in the event of a government shutdown pursuant to Article III, §9(a) of the NMI Constitution.

The Judicial Council granted Demapan and Naraja authority to periodically reevaluate and amend those services and personnel deemed essential throughout any shutdown period.

On Sept. 23, 2010, the Judicial Council adopted Resolution Number 10-2010, which formally adopted the position paper regarding judicial services during a government shutdown.

The adopted position paper defined essential services as those functions performed by the Judiciary which are necessary to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, protect against damage to or destruction of property, or are required to fulfill the constitutional mandates of the NMI and U.S. Constitutions.

The Judicial Council concluded that regardless of the length of shutdown during any government shutdown, the following services are essential:

- Probable cause/Gerstein hearings following warrantless arrest
- Bail hearings and bail modification hearings
- Civil commitment hearings
- Family Court services, including temporary restraining order hearings
- Temporary Restraining Order and preliminary injunction hearings
- Preliminary Hearings
- Adult initial appearance
- Juvenile initial appearance

See JUDICIARY on Next Page

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DESPITE CONTINUOUS OPERATION OF HOSPITAL

Holders of expired Medicaid cards can't process eligibility

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The operations of Commonwealth Health Center may have been spared, but patients are still being affected by the government shutdown because of expired Medicaid cards that they cannot process for renewal.

Public health acting deputy secretary for hospital administration Esther Muna confirmed to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the Medicaid Office and the Human Resources Office were among the important units that were ordered closed since Friday.

"There are units not under the hospital that are closed, however, shutting them down affects the operations of CHC and its delivery of services. The Medicaid Office and the Human Resources Office are both closed. Patients with expired Medicaid cards will have to wait for the Medicaid office to open before their eligibility is re-determined," said Muna, adding that the HRO processes recruitment of Medical staff.

Since Friday, she said both the hospital and Hemodialysis Center have been open. Clinics and ancillary units that were kept open included dietary unit, social work services, housekeeping unit, medical supply unit, facilities and maintenance, medical records, and business office.

Meanwhile, units that were closed include the accounts payable section, which has four employees that process payments to vendors and requests for purchase orders of medical supplies.

The collection unit, which has four staff, was also shut down. It processes patient payments and bills secondary payers for patient.

Muna added that infection control unit with one employee was also closed down. This unit coordinates the education and the control of the spread of the infection in the hospital and the Hemodialysis Center.

Also two staffers assigned at the information technology and health information exchange were affected by the shutdown after their unit was ordered closed last Friday. This section provides information technology support for patient care and business operations.

In addition, Muna said there are also certain positions excluded in the executive order. "The individuals holding these positions are working in units that are operational but their positions are not identified in the E.O. Nevertheless, they are all an important part of the hospital system," said Muna.

These positions include a carpenter, pharmacy technician, medical supply specialist in the pharmacy, administrative officers of the business office, administrative officers of the business office, and administrative officer in the quality assessment department.

JUDICIARY

From Page 2

- Traffic arraignments
- Criminal arraignments
- Judicial review, issuance of warrants (search arrest, eavesdropping)
- Bench and jury trials presently set
- Any other hearings or motions which address or affect the civil rights of incarcerated individuals

DUE TO GOV'T SHUTDOWN

2 sections at DPS remain closed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

With the Bureau of Motor Vehicles resuming its operations yesterday, two sections at the Department of Public Safety remained shutdown as of yesterday.

DPS spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that the Firearms/Records Section and the department's main administration office are still closed.

As of Monday, Blas said, all 12 personnel from BMV and eight personnel at the main administration did not report to work as they're considered non-essential employees.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, however, on Monday amended his executive order to include BMV as essential agency.

Fitial listed three BMV personnel—chief of BMV, driver's license technician (one personnel daily), and a vehicle registration technician (one personnel daily)—as essentials.

The amended order led to the re-opening of BMV yesterday. The Judiciary's cashier also yesterday began accepting payments for car registrations, driver's license, and other fees.

The closure of BMV on Friday and Monday, not only surprised car owners and dealers, but also caused a decrease in government revenue.

Several car owners and auto shop representatives went to the Judiciary's cashier on Friday and Monday to pay car registrations, but only to be told by court marshals at the entrance of the Guma Hustisia Building in Susupe that the cashier does not accept such payments because of BMV's closure.

Considered as essentials at DPS are the commissioner, dispatchers, nine total firefighters per shift (firefighters I, II, and III), Fire lieutenants, wild land firefighters, and sworn officers except those assigned at the Criminal Investigation Bureau.

Boating Safety Unit and CIB officers have been put on on-call status.

For DPS Rota and Tinian, all are considered essentials except administrative personnel.

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Checks for scholars also delayed

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Recipients of the CNMI Scholarship Program are up in arms because of the delay in the disbursement of checks for their tuition and books following the shutdown of the scholarship office last week.

Margelyn Isip, a freshman at the University of Guam, said she is worried about the fate of the scholars like her who depend on the CNMI Scholarship Program.

"What will happen to students who haven't received it [check] yet? I am a freshman at UOG and instead of worrying about school projects, activities, and homework, I am worried about the expenses I have to make like excess tuition and dorm," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Isip said she called the CNMI scholarship last Thursday and she was told that her check is ready. But the next day, their office closed down.

"I know Saipan is in deep crisis, but don't let it interfere with the education of the youth. Some UOG students from Saipan have not received their tuition yet and most of us reside in dorms at UOG. This is my first semester as a college student and I'm trying to adjust to the environment and stress, but I don't want to worry about things I shouldn't worry about," she added.

Aleth Kae Atalig, a scholarship recipient enrolled at Northern Marianas College, said she was advised to come back at the financial aid office next week for her check disbursement. She said she's waiting for her scholarship money to buy a laptop for her English composition subject.

Atalig doubts she will get her disbursement soon because she was told that off-island scholars are the priority for now.

When asked to comment about the delayed scholarship awards, Press Secretary Angel A. Demapan said yesterday that it is important for recipients to keep in mind that there is a set of procedures that governs the disbursement of scholarship awards.

"When an applicant has hurdled the application process and the board has approved the recipients, it does not necessarily mean that the entire lump sum amount for all the recipients is readily available for distribution," he admitted.

Demapan added that it should be made clear that the identification of funding sources also does not necessarily mean that all the funds are physically present. These funds need to be collected in the same manner all other local revenues must be collected from taxpayers, business entities and so forth.

This, he said, is the very same reason why payroll has been delayed during the past pay periods.

FROILAN

From Page 1

Tenorio, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said he could still do his job as speaker but said it is not right for him to do so and work at Juan C. Tenorio & Associates Inc.

He said if there's any piece of legislation involving his brother's firm or any matter wherein he might find himself in a conflict of interest, he would recuse himself from voting.

"I consulted with the public auditor about this," he said, referring to the legality of having a lawmaker with a part-time job.

Tenorio, a former CNMI governor from 1994 to 1998, said his stepping down does not have anything to do with a proposal to reduce the House leadership's account or the defeat of his casino bill at the Senate.

House majority members and others aligned with the leadership succeeded in cutting down the House leadership account to a mere $50,000 from the current level of $76,000.

The House leadership is proposing to increase the current amount to $400,000, the maximum allowed by the Constitution, for the eight committees and three officers to better do their job including conducting public hearings on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan and hire an economist, among other things.

He said the drafters of the CNMI Constitution capped the leadership account at $400,000 knowing that this is an amount that will be needed.

"If people think the $400,000 should be reduced, then reduce it but be reasonable," he said.

Tenorio also denied having a fight with Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan).

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), when asked for comment, said it is "unfortunate" that Tenorio will step down at this time when a budget needs to pass.

He said if there really isn't a rift between Tenorio and Ogumoro, "then why can't they be unified in their position on the budget bill?"

"At the same time people out there are screaming, getting tired of the budget deadlock, and the continued government shutdown," Manglona said.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said he hopes that the speaker will focus on the budget at this time, and not his personal decision to step down.

'They will regret it'

Tenorio said he will not step down because the Senate defeated his casino bill.

"That has nothing to do with it," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

But Tenorio said Rota and Tinian senators will "regret it," referring to their voting down of the casino bill at a time when the CNMI economy needs as much help it can.

"The senators from Rota and Tinian are going to regret it because if you think that the $132 million budget is bad, just wait until a year or two, and the government revenue will further go down. I don't think the government will even meet the $132 million projected revenue for 2011. I feel that casinos will address our revenue problem two to three years from now," he said.

Tenorio said he is thinking of reintroducing a casino bill.

"If it doesn't go through, I'll consider working on a popular initiative next year," he added.

Who will be the next speaker?

Tenorio said when he steps down, the House leadership members have to decide who among them will replace him. He declined to comment on who should replace him within the leadership.

But the process does not end there. The full House membership has to vote for the new speaker.

When asked about the prospect of having Benavente win the speaker's post, Tenorio said this is impossible.

"There's no way he could be next speaker. We still have 11 or 12 votes, but we still have the majority vote," he added.

Benavente, for his part, said at this point there's no question that it will be hard for the Republicans to muster enough votes to elect one of their own.

"But again, I hope this issue about the speaker stepping down should not take away the focus from the need to pass a budget now," he added.

Other lawmakers said Tenorio might change his mind a month or two from now.

On Saturday night, Tenorio also said he will not seek reelection in 2012 and will do the best he can during his term.

LEGISLATURE

From Page 1

lion budget for Fiscal Year 2011.

Tenorio said this before he was set to call for a House session late yesterday afternoon, although this didn't happen.

A House session may be called today instead, and the Senate remains on standby.

"We are going to entertain a bill calling for eight hours reduction but in order for that budget to be balanced, we have to include the positions of 383 employees who will lose their jobs," Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune*.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) separately said yesterday that the Senate is compromising further because it is now agreeing to a 12-hour cut and 13 unpaid holidays.

But Manglona reiterated that this is predicated upon the House passing revenue-generating bills and meeting again after 90 days to assess whether work hour cuts need to be increased or reduced, depending on the revenue coming on.

The House leadership has long been calling for a 16-hour cut per pay period and 13 unpaid holidays.

The Senate, for its part, has pushed for an eight-hour cut and seven unpaid holidays. Previously, the Senate wanted zero unpaid holidays, then seven, and now, 13.

The speaker and president's statements came on the fifth day of the partial CNMI government shutdown.

The partial shutdown came about because of the Legislature's failure to pass a budget that's signed into law by the Sept. 30 deadline.

Since Oct. 1, over 1,400 government employees were unable to report to work because Gov. Benigno R. Fitial did not list their positions as "essential service" posts. But this list is becoming shorter as the governor amends his order as days go by.

The House and Senate have been deadlocked on the work hour cuts, unpaid holidays, and the Legislature's leadership account, among other things.

They have so far agreed on lawmakers' individual annual discretionary funding of $80,000, reinstating the Commonwealth Zoning Board's annual funding of $110,000, and funding for the Northern Marianas College and Public School System to meet the Maintenance-of-Effort requirement.

More jobs at stake

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the latest information and figures were the ones brought up during a meeting between Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and lawmakers Monday night.

House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) and other House leadership members earlier said if the Senate's eight-hour work cut proposal passed, this would mean the automatic layoff of 383 employees in the Executive Branch alone.

But based on the figures that Inos presented to lawmakers on Monday night, the figures were different.

Inos said the administration expects 333 employee positions to be laid off if nothing is done to address an expected budget shortfall of $11.5 million, or if no work hour cuts and unpaid holidays are implemented.

He also said that if nothing is done to address the $12.5 million in additional appropriations required, there would be an additional lay off of 363 employees.

This means that a total of 696 employee positions that may be at stake if the administration's expected budget shortfall is not addressed.

"Based on my verification of information, the administration has provided such a list that you are referring to. At this point, the latest information discussed with the administration and the legislature was the figures that the lieutenant governor had presented to them during last night's meeting at the House chamber," said Demapan.

'Wasted time'

Lawmakers on Capital Hill had been waiting since Thursday last week for the House to go into session to act on the latest budget bill that the Senate amended, Rep. Ray Basa's House Bill 17-121.

Tenorio said the Senate's latest substitute bill would "not balance the budget."

"We are trying to approve a budget that the governor can sign… We are not going to approve a budget that is not balanced. That is a violation of the Constitution," the House speaker added.

Members of the 17th Legislature, except for Tenorio and Basa, met for at least six hours from around 7:30pm Monday to around 1:30am Tuesday to try to break the budget deadlock which resulted in the shutdown since Friday.

Joining them at the meeting were Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Management and Budget director Vicky Villagomez.

During the meeting, Inos said the House and Senate should work together to resolve a projected shortfall of $11.5 million. This could be done by cutting work hours plus having unpaid holidays.

He said after this is resolved, then the House and Senate could move on to addressing additional appropriations needed totaling $12.536 million. This includes $4.6 million in additional retirement contribution as mandated by court, $4.1 million in heath insurance renewal rate, and $3.8 million in additional Medicaid share.

Inos said a revenue-generating bill could also help, and this drew applause from the lawmakers.

Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) then called for a closed-door meeting of the House leadership at around 9:30pm.

Some lawmakers said they were a bit relieved that the House and Senate leadership were reaching an agreement to pass a revenue-generating bill, whether it's Basa's House Bill 17-53, Senate Substitute 1, or another measure.

But they said this agreement was disregarded yesterday.

Manglona said it's as if the Legislature is again "back to square one," adding that the long hours of meeting that began on Monday night was a "waste of time."

"We were hoping to pass a revenue-generating bill, and then work on the budget bill by (Tuesday) but nothing happened," the Senate president said.

The lawmakers were supposed to meet again at 11am yesterday, but the House leadership didn't call for the meeting.

Manglona also sent another letter to Tenorio, asking for a 2pm meeting yesterday but this did not happen.

House minority leader Rep. Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said it was also his understanding that the House leadership is now open to an eight-hour work cut per pay period that the Senate has been pushing for all along.

"But we won't know that until we see a new bill from the leadership," he said.

Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), for his part, said the delay in sessions "makes it hard not to believe that this is intentional."

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) said the budget impasse creates a "state of anxiety" not only for citizens living in the Commonwealth but even those residing outside the CNMI such as Guam, Hawaii, and United States.

"They are just as affected and concerned and have made their sentiments known via telephones calls and even on Facebook to families, relatives and friends. They too, like all of us, are hoping that there would be an immediate resolution by the Legislature so the budget issue could be put to closure. They too, like all of us, continue to monitor and observe any progress at the Legislature, thus, we cannot delay any further, must act as mandated and entrusted with the authority to represent our people to the best of our knowledge and ability," she said.

GOVERNOR

From Page 1

main functioning," he said in his one-page Executive Order 2010-14.

Fitial's latest executive order lists as essential services the DPL secretary post, along with the following: administrative assistant/accountant 1 (one personnel), accountant I (one personnel), and accountant III/acting accounting manager (one personnel).

On Monday, he added over 100 personnel to the list of exempt employees from the shutdown. Prior to that, on Saturday, he added the NMI Retirement Fund from the list.

Fitial issued an executive order on Sept. 30, declaring a state of emergency for the CNMI "due to the lack of a balanced budget being in effect on Oct. 1, 2010."

The House of Representatives and Senate, as of yesterday, have yet to agree on a budget bill.

Without a budget passed, over 1,000 government employees will still be unable to report to work.

In other news, the Fitial administration said as of yesterday, there's still no telling whether government employees will receive their paychecks on Friday.

12 APPLY FOR NMC PREXY POST

Search committee prepares to submit Top 4 candidates

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Presidential Search Committee has received 12 applications for the chief executive post of the Northern Marianas College and is now preparing to submit the list of top contenders to the Board of Regents for final selection.

In a statement to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, committee acting chair Ed Camacho disclosed that once the names of the final candidates are transmitted to the board, the regents will conduct additional interviews and public forums before a final selection is made.

"All the members of the Presidential Search Committee have invested much of their time and effort to ensure that the search process was efficient and carried out with wide community input," said Camacho, adding that the panel has nearly completed its task of helping to vet the prospective candidates for the position of NMC president.

He said the committee anticipates that it will forward the list of final candidates to the regents in the next few days. The Board of Regents has scheduled its next meeting for Oct. 7.

The search process commenced earlier this year in June when the regents formally appointed the members of the committee.

Since then the committee has publicly announced the job vacancy, sought community input about what the qualifications the new president should have, and held public forums and other activities to ensure that the search process was open and transparent.

The committee chair said that of the 12 applicants, four were selected based on the preferred qualifications listed in the vacancy announcement.

The four finalists were then interviewed last week.

Camacho said when the results of the interview are finalized, the finalists' names will be submitted to the board to make the final selection.

Saipan Tribune learned that the candidates who were selected locally have been interviewed on Saipan last Oct. 1 and those from off-island are being interviewed by telephone. The committee is confident that this process will be completed by the middle of this month.

Among those rumored who have applied include NMC accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero, business department chairperson John Griffin, and business instructor Rik Villegas.

The post of NMC president has been vacant since April 12 when the board terminated Dr. Carmen Fernandez for violating college and board policies. A lawsuit relating to her termination is ongoing.

The selection NMC's new president is vital in addressing the concerns of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, which again placed the college in show-cause status last June. The institution has until Oct. 15 to submit its show-cause report which the commission will base its decision in January.

6,280 lbs collected during Saipan International Coastal Cleanup

A final count of 1,089 Saipan residents volunteered their time on Friday, Sept. 24, and Saturday, Sept. 25, to collect 6,280 lbs of trash from coastal areas of Saipan.

Government agencies, private businesses, schools, and clubs all joined the effort to cleanup our beaches.

Of the 53 groups that participated, 27 used data sheets to record all marine debris and pieces of garbage that they collected. This data has been compiled by Coastal Resources Management and is available to the public. According to the data, items most often littering the island's beaches include: cigarette butts, plastic bottles, aluminum cans and plastic bags. Out of 16,716 pieces of garbage reported, 4,652 were cigarette butts, 1,323 were plastic bags, 1,826 were aluminum cans and 1,390 were Styrofoam containers.

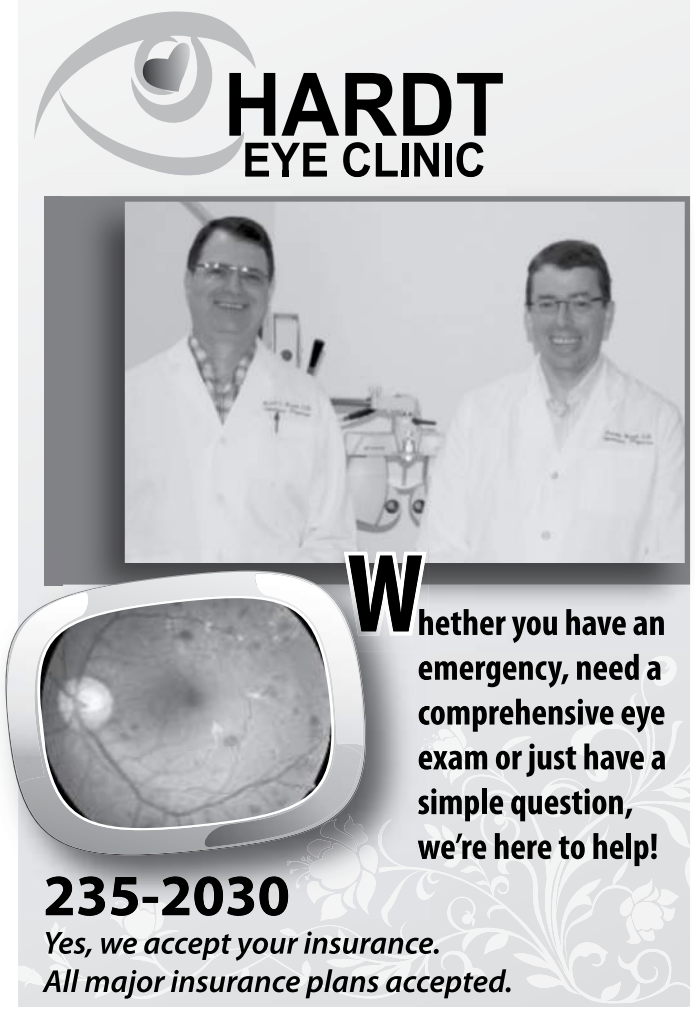
"We now have a better idea of the types of trash that need to be targeted for reduction on Saipan," said Rachel Zuercher of the cleanup planning team. "For example, it's clear that plastic bags and Styrofoam containers are a huge problem. These types of trash cannot be recycled in the CNMI and we need to work hard to reduce their use."

Other concerning debris that was removed include 16 fishing nets that could have easily ended up back in CNMI waters to continue trapping fish and wildlife, 177 batteries that leach toxic chemicals directly into the sea, and 147 six-pack holders that are notorious for strangling marine wildlife.

"The good news," said Guy Macaranas of CRM, "is that many of the items found on the beaches can be recycled. It is clear from the huge Coastal Cleanup turnout that people are willing to make an effort to reduce marine debris. We just need to transfer that effort to our everyday lives and begin recycling at home."

"The Cleanup Planning Team wants to send out another huge thank you to all volunteers in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Without community support, this event would not have made nearly the impact that it did," Zuercher said.

For a complete list of groups that participated in the 2010 Saipan International Coastal Cleanup, please visit the Beautify CNMI website at http://beau-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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
REPROGRAMMING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Program Year	Activity No.	Activity Type	Activity Name	Activity Status	Amount from program	Reprogram to
2004	238	Public Facilities	Rota Baseball/ Softball Field	Completed	$35,082.00	
2004	306	Public Facilities	Tinian Public Library Public Service	Completed	$22,983.46	
2006	323	Public Facilities	Northern Marianas Islands-Japan Cultural Center	Completed	$21,170.57	
2006	327	Public Facilities	Tinian Amphitheater Phase II	Completed	$215.64	
2006	343	Public Services	Marianas High School Public Services	Completed	$0.15	
2006	344	Public Services	Tinian Elementary School Public Services	Completed	$14.00	
2006	345	Public Facilities	One Million Gallon Water Reservoir Rehabilitation	Completed	$69,091.74	
2006	347	Public Facilities	Susupe Sports Complex	Completed	$13,012.99	
2007	337	Public Facilities	Marianas High School Building J	Completed	$45,000.00	
2004/2006/2007		Public Facilities	Major Rehabilitation of the Susupe Sports Complex Gymnasium	New		$206,570.55
Total					$206,570.55	$206,570.55

The public is invited to provide written and oral comments on the proposed reprogramming. Written comments will be accepted no later than 4:30 p.m., October 11, 2010, at the main office in Garapan, Post Office Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950. Oral comments may be relayed to Zenie P. Mafnas at telephone number (670) 234-7670, 6866, 7689, or 9447. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations to submit comments may also contact Jeannie P. Mafnas at the telephone numbers above for assistance.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Political parties turn in list of poll workers

»Processing of about 100 absentee requests affected by shutdown

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Political parties in the CNMI have submitted the list of their respective poll workers for the Nov. 2 polls.

Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero said yesterday that 200 poll workers will be hired by the agency for the upcoming election of which equal representations will come from he Republican, Democratic, and Covenant parties.

These recommended poll workers will have to undergo training from the agency prior to the board's certification of the official list.

Saipan Tribune learned that each poll worker will be paid $50 for the Nov. 2 polls, funds of which will be sourced from the commission's $65,000 budget.

Guerrero explained that for every polling station, nine individuals are expected to be on the site along with a representative from the Office of Public Auditor. These include one election worker, one confined worker, and one poll supervisor from each political camp.

For instance, in the case of San Vicente polling site, the three-classroom station will be manned by 27 poll workers and OPA representatives.

The commission staffers are expected to make the rounds during the election and provide logistics for the activity.

Yesterday, Guerrero said about 100 absentee requests were processed by their staff upon work. The processing of these absentee requests were affected by government shutdown that started last Friday.

The agency is expected to send the absentee voter's packets today.

The commission has until Friday at 4:30 p.m. to receive request for absentee ballots.

As of yesterday, the agency recorded 532 absentee voters on its website. This figure is expected to grow upon receipt of the additional packets from off-island voters until Friday noon.

Judge disagrees with prosecution on how to get Munson's testimony

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A federal court judge has disagreed with the U.S. government that the alternatives in obtaining testimony from retired federal court judge Alex Munson are either his appearance in person at the hearing or submission of his affidavit.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett in an order issued on Monday said among other alternatives are a videotaped deposition or testimony in "real time" by videoconference.

The court will conduct an evidentiary hearing on Nov. 8, 2010 at 9am pertaining to the issue whether or not judge Munson directed the public be excluded from jury selection in the trial of former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez and co-defendants James A. Santos and Joaquina V. Santos.

The U.S. government has asked the court to continue the evidentiary hearing to a date when Munson, who now resides in Idaho, can appear in person at the hearing on Saipan.

The prosecution suggested that the alternatives in obtaining Munson's evidence are either his live appearance or a declaration not subjected to cross-examination.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley said depriving the U.S. government of Munson's live testimony (not to mention the testimony of Marshals who worked the trial, but for whom it will be prohibitively expensive to return to Saipan), while allowing live testimony from defense witnesses, all of whom live in the CNMI, gives Villagomez and the Santos couple an unfair advantage.

In his order issued on Monday, Bennett ruled that the logistical and scheduling issues raised in the prosecution's motions warrant a status conference in this matter.

Bennett set the status conference for today, Wednesday, regarding logistical and scheduling issues on the evidentiary hearing.

Bennett ruled that the logistical and scheduling issues raised in the U.S. government's motions warrant a status conference in this matter.

Bennett set the telephonic status conference for today, Wednesday, at 8:30am (Saipan time).

Bennett is a judge of the U.S. District Court Northern District of Iowa.

"This status conference will be entirely by telephone; no courtroom in Saipan will be set aside for this hearing. The court will initiate the conference call or establish a 'bridge' for participants to join the call," the judge said.

Bennett said that, in the U.S. government's motion to continue, the prosecution requests that the Nov. 8 evidentiary hearing be continued because Munson, who was the trial judge, but who is now retired and living in Idaho, will not be able to appear on Saipan on or around that date.

Bennett said the prosecution notes that Munson has offered to submit a declaration on the pertinent issue of closure of the courtroom in lieu of his appearance "live" at the Nov. 8 hearing, but believes that such a declaration should only be in response to a stipulated request.

Villagomez and the Santos couple are currently serving their sentences in federal prison for their participation in the Rydlyme corruption scandal. They appealed to reverse many court's orders.

Immigration picks up Saluta, but releases him later

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement yesterday brought to their office defendant Noel Saluta shortly after his family and friends were able to raise $525 cash bail for his criminal case.

Saipan Tribune learned that the U.S. ICE, however, later released Saluta, who was reunited with his wife and five young children at their rented house in Chalan Piao at 5pm yesterday.

Saluta was released from the Department of Corrections at 2:37pm after bail was posted in connection with his pending criminal case over an alleged assault incident that happened more than a year ago.

It was not clear yet why ICE brought Saluta to their office. At a recent hearing, chief prosecutor Michael Ernest stated that the defendant has no legal immigration status to remain in the CNMI.

The jobless Saluta has maintained that he has a pending Labor case against his former employer.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo agreed to temporarily release Saluta on $525 cash bail with some conditions after finding he is not a flight risk.

Govendo allowed Saluta's jobless wife, Juliet, and his brother to serve as third party custodians for the defendant.

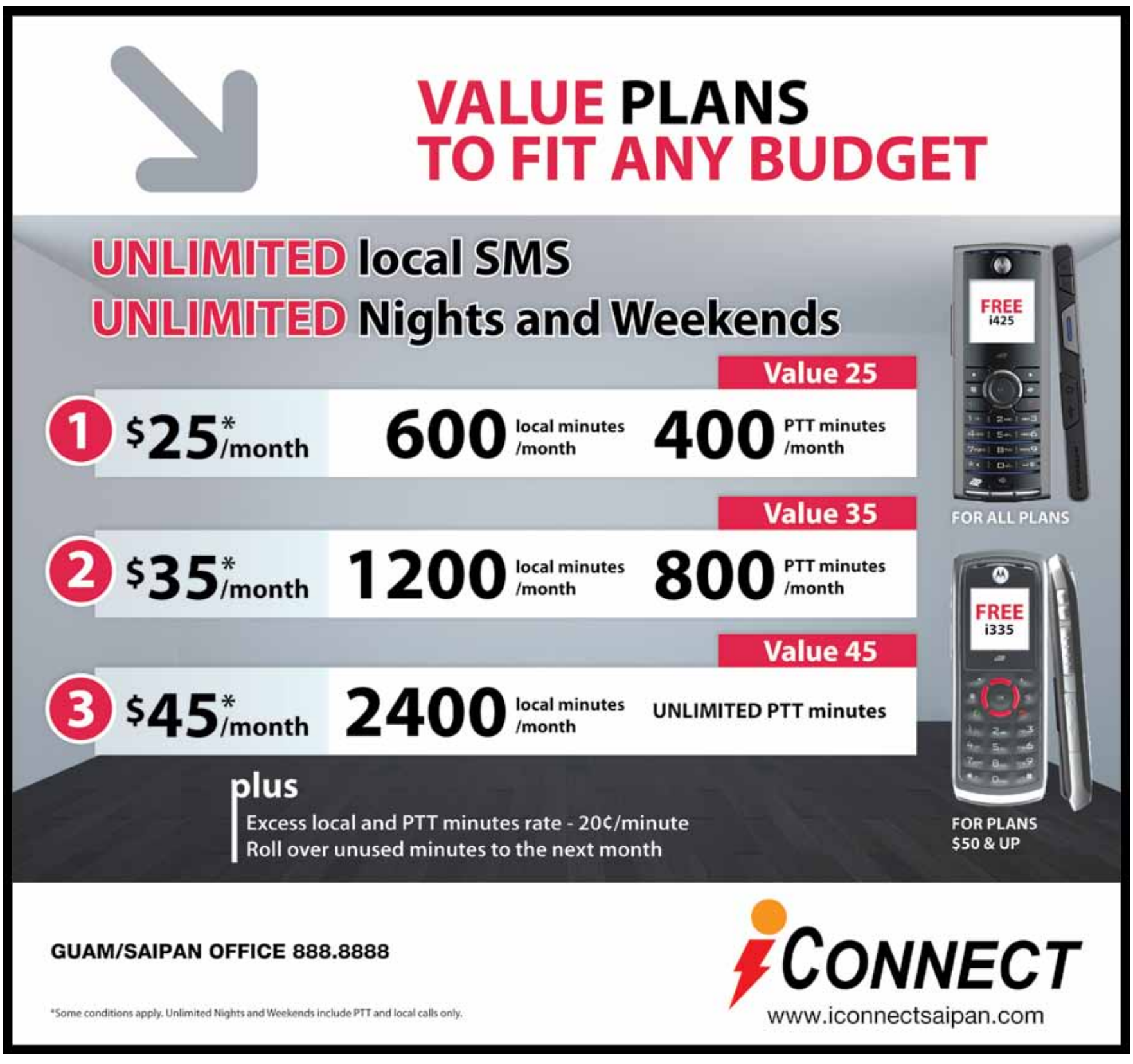
Govendo last week raised the original $5,250 cash bail to $10,000. On Thursday, the judge restored the bail back to the original $5,250 cash upon Saluta counsel, assistant public defender Douglas Hartig's motion.

Hartig moved to modify the bail anew to 10 percent of the $5,250 or $525 cash. The judge agreed.

Saluta surrendered to police last Sept. 22 after learning that there is an arrest warrant for him. He denied the criminal charges.

Hartig said Saluta is not a flight risk as indicated when he voluntarily surrendered to authorities in his willingness to resolve the matter in court.

Saluta recently attracted media attention after he and his family were forced to take shelter at the Susupe Regional Beach Park stage after being turned out from their rented house. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***



Marpac to hold 'Street Smart' events in two schools

» Presentation will center on fight vs. underage drinking and drunk driving

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As part of their commitment to fight underage drinking and drunk driving, Marpac and Anheuser-Busch InBev will sponsor a presentation designed to discourage underage drinking, drunk driving, and illegal drug use while encouraging seatbelt use.

Called "Street Smart," the presentation will be held on Oct. 7 from 7:30am to 9:25am at Marianas High School and 10am to 11:30am at Saipan Southern High School.

Street Smart aims to take students into the real-life drama experienced by firefighters and paramedics as they save the lives of teenagers who have made poor choices by means of underage drinking or use of illegal drugs.

Marpac general manager Tom Shimizu said many of their employees are parents themselves and are committed to help young people stay safe.

"The paramedics' real life stories have a powerful, long-lasting impact that we hope will encourage students to be responsible about the choices they make," said Shimizu.

Two certified paramedics will do the presentation in a classroom setting. They will show students what happens at a trauma scene, from taking a pulse of a victim to loading the victim onto a backboard.

Using their medical equipment, the paramedics will make the students see and feel how to save a life. Students will also learn about the experiences of the victims themselves.

"The paramedics' real-life stories have a powerful, long-lasting impact that we hope will encourage students to be responsible about the choices they make," said Shimizu.

The presenters will be members of the Stay Alive From Education, a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing teen injuries and fatalities and created by firefighters and paramedics in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Executive director Vincent Easevoli hopes that the presentation will help students to realize the significance of making the right choices.

"We want them to understand the consequences that come with their actions and the importance and value of their own lives," he said.

Street Smart is one of the community based alcohol awareness and education programs sponsored by Anheuser-Busch and its more than 600 independent wholesalers across the country to promote responsible drinking.

To learn more about these efforts, visit www.beeresponsible.com.

Breast Cancer Awareness Walk begins today

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Throughout the month of October, there will be Breast Cancer Awareness Walks every Wednesday in celebration of the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Breast Cancer Awareness Walks will begin today at Oleai Beach from 4pm to 6pm.

Commonwealth Cancer Association program manager Tina Sablan said their group will sponsor the first walk.

Sablan said the next walk on Oct. 13 will be hosted by the First Lady's Foundation, followed by the Department of Public Health on Oct. 20, and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and Families Fit for Life on Oct. 27.

According to Sablan, there will also be educational exhibits to be featured at each weekly walk.

"We encourage the entire community, and especially survivors and family members, to join us during those evenings," said Sablan.

Those who will attend the Breast Cancer Awareness Walks are encouraged to wear pink.

Aside from the walks, activities lined up for the celebration of the Breast Cancer Awareness Month include celebrity bagging in participating stores, educational booth and screening at the man'amko center, and the 2010 Pinktober Conert at Hard Rock Café on Oct. 10.

For more information, call the Department of Public Health at 236-8728 or the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050.

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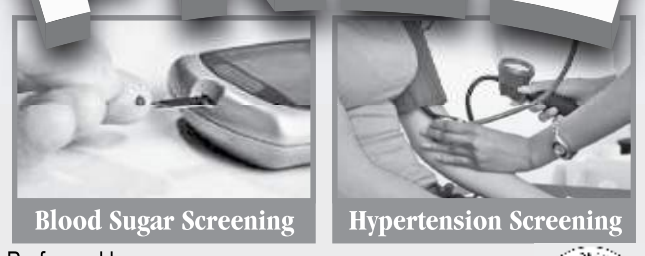
Blood Sugar Screening
Hypertension Screening
Performed by:
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University of Hawaii at Hilo, College of Pharmacy
Class of 2011
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WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE:	September 24, 2010	**POSITION:**	Cashier (1)
CLOSE DATE:	October 8, 2010	**SALARY:**	Minimum Wage
Job Qualification:	Must be a high school graduate or equivalent. Must have at least one year of experience. Special training or other certification (if applicable).		
OPEN DATE:	September 24, 2010	**POSITION:**	Lifeguard/Prim (4)
CLOSE DATE:	October 8, 2010	**SALARY:**	Minimum Wage
Job Qualification:	Must be a high school graduate or equivalent. Must be able to pass the swimming test. Lifeguard certification is a plus.		

For more information you may contact Ms. Miriam K. Seman, Human Resources Manager at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274.

Employment application forms are available at Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applications must include all the necessary requirements and submit employment application to the Security Office for logging.

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SHIPPING SCHEDULE

MARIANA EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENTOSA	044E	9/25 Sat	9/23 Thu	9/23 Thu	9/21 Tue	9/18 Sat	10/1 Fri	9/27 Mon	9/26 Sun	9/19 Sun	9/19 Sun	9/27 Mon	10/1 Fri	10/3 Sun	10/5 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	010E	10/2 Sat	9/30 Thu	9/30 Thu	9/28 Tue	9/25 Sat	10/8 Fri	10/4 Mon	10/3 Sun	9/26 Sun	9/26 Sun	10/4 Mon	10/8 Fri	10/10 Sun	10/12 Tue
MELL SILOSO	011E	10/9 Sat	10/7 Thu	10/7 Thu	10/5 Tue	10/2 Sat	10/15 Fri	10/11 Mon	10/10 Sun	10/3 Sun	10/3 Sun	10/11 Mon	10/15 Fri	10/17 Sun	10/19 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	045E	10/16 Sat	10/14 Thu	10/14 Thu	10/12 Tue	10/9 Sat	10/22 Fri	10/18 Mon	10/17 Sun	10/10 Sun	10/10 Sun	10/18 Mon	10/22 Fri	10/24 Sun	10/26 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	011E	10/23 Sat	10/21 Thu	10/21 Thu	10/19 Tue	10/16 Sat	10/29 Fri	10/25 Mon	10/24 Sun	10/17 Sun	10/17 Sun	10/25 Mon	10/29 Fri	10/31 Sun	11/2 Tue
MELL SILOSO	012E	10/30 Sat	10/28 Thu	10/28 Thu	10/26 Tue	10/23 Sat	11/5 Fri	11/1 Mon	10/31 Sun	10/24 Sun	10/24 Sun	11/1 Mon	11/5 Fri	11/7 Sun	11/9 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENTOSA	044E	10/9 Sat	10/10 Sun	10/10 Sun	SKIP	10/13 Wed	10/15 Fri	10/17 Sun	SKIP	10/22 Fri	10/23 Sat	10/28 Thu	11/16 Tue	10/31 Sun	10/27 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	010E	10/16 Sat	10/17 Sun	10/17 Sun	10/19 Tue	10/20 Wed	10/22 Fri	10/24 Sun	SKIP	10/29 Fri	10/30 Sat	11/4 Thu	11/23 Tue	11/7 Sun	11/3 Wed
MELL SILOSO	011E	10/23 Sat	10/24 Sun	10/24 Sun	SKIP	10/27 Wed	10/29 Fri	10/31 Sun	SKIP	11/5 Fri	11/6 Sat	11/11 Thu	11/30 Tue	11/14 Sun	11/10 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	045E	10/30 Sat	10/31 Sun	10/31 Sun	11/2 Tue	11/3 Wed	11/5 Fri	11/7 Sun	SKIP	11/12 Fri	11/13 Sat	11/18 Thu	12/7 Tue	11/21 Sun	11/17 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	011E	11/6 Sat	11/7 Sun	11/7 Sun	SKIP	11/10 Wed	11/12 Fri	11/14 Sun	SKIP	11/19 Fri	11/20 Sat	11/25 Thu	12/14 Tue	11/28 Sun	11/24 Wed
MELL SILOSO	012E	11/13 Sat	11/14 Sun	11/14 Sun	11/14 Sun	11/17 Wed	11/19 Fri	11/21 Sun	SKIP	11/26 Fri	11/27 Sat	12/2 Thu	12/21 Tue	12/5 Sun	12/1 Wed

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Angel Ray donates to Koblerville Youth Center

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cancer survivor Angel Ray Tudela Guerrero has lived up to his name once again by donating materials to the youth of Koblerville.

Guerrero donated four boxes of books and other resource materials, educational toys, and games yesterday afternoon at the Koblerville Youth Center.

Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that he has been making donations to various big groups and organizations that he thought of helping the youth centers.

"The Koblerville Youth Center has always been burglarized and keeps losing their stuff so I thought of giving them some books and toys for the kids," said Guerrero.

Guerrero said the materials he donated were given by U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan and came from the U.S. Congressional Library.

He said he figures out to whom he would give the donations he receives from groups and individuals depending on what kind of materials he gets.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
The children at the Koblerville Youth Center hold the books and toys donated by cancer survivor Angel Ray T. Guerrero yesterday afternoon. With them are program coordinator Vernon-Lee I. Manglona and Koblerville Neighborhood Watch chair Rose Ada-Hocog.

"Like I always say, it's all for kids. A lot of kids who go to the youth center don't have a lot of stuff. It's a place they go to hang out and do their homework," he said.

The 15-year-old said the donated books will be good for the children of Koblerville to help them with their education while the toys will keep them from being bored.

"On behalf of the children of the Koblerville Youth Center and their parents, the Youth Affairs Office under the Office of the Governor, we thank Angel Ray for his generous contribution to our youth center," said program coordinator Vernon-Lee I. Manglona.

According to Manglona, the donated materials will come in handy for the children of Koblerville as most of the resources at the youth center come from donations from organizations and private individuals.

The Koblerville Youth Center serves about 35 children on a daily basis, which goes as many as 60 to 70 on a busy day.

"This donation will help in educating the children at the center," said Manglona.

The youth center has a number of activities that are free for Koblerville residents, including the Saipan Awaodori practice on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Korean language lessons on Thursdays, and table tennis lessons on Fridays.

Koblerville Neighborhood Watch chair Rose Ada-Hocog the donation was a great gesture on the part of Guerrero.

"Despite what he went through, he continues to serve the community. I hope he continues doing what he's doing. He's a true leader. He's the kind of person that everybody should emulate," said Hocog.

USCIS continues CNMI form I-9 Webinars to help employers

The Verification Office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will conduct its fourth in a series of Webinars focusing on the Form I-9 CNMI (Individuals in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands) on Oct. 14 beginning at 8am.

This live meeting conducted over the Internet includes a presentation giving attendees the opportunity to learn about the CNMI Form I-9. The CNMI Form I-9 is used exclusively in the CNMI and has been required for all new hires in the Commonwealth since Nov. 28, 2009.

To register for a USCIS Webinars, go to the Sign Up for a Webinar page http://go.usa.gov/it.

More information or assistance is available through our customer service representative Tuesday through Saturday from 4am to 1pm local CNMI time by dialing 1-888-464-4218.

To learn more about the federalization of immigration law in the CNMI, go to www.uscis.gov/cnmi. ***(USCIS)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-11-001

ADDENDUM NO. 1
September 30, 2010

Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment: Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-IFB-11-001.

BOND REQUIREMENT: Bid, Performance and Payment bonds will not be required to be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury for this particular project. However, the Bidders Surety Company of choice, must be acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General and Bidder is required to submit a clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC), certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7).

/s/ ABE U. MALAE
Acting Executive Director

Saipan Call-A-Ride service temporarily unavailable

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities' Saipan Call-A-Ride transportation services will be temporarily unavailable from Oct. 5 to 8 due to major repairs that need to be made to the accessible lift ramps.

Transportation services for Saipan clients will resume on Saturday, Oct. 9. To schedule for a ride for Oct. 9, please contact Saipan Call-A-Ride drivers on Friday, Oct. 8.

Saipan Call-A-Ride drivers' contact numbers are 285-7002 for Willdrow Cabrera and 285-7003 for Lionel Borja. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Birthday greetings go out to Christian Barcinas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 29th birthday to Shaun Fitial Iguel. May this year be the beginning of the best years of your life. Enjoy your day! Love you always. From your A-Town family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 6, 1999

DLNR runs out of plant vouchers

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources yesterday said it has run out of plant vouchers with the deluge of requests for free vouchers for a plant of their choice. According to Public Information Officer Marianne C. Teregeyo, some 150 vouchers were issued this year and divided for distribution among DLNR, Division of Agriculture and the Division of Parks and Grounds. She said the vouchers were divided among the three offices for easy access and convenience to the general public. The three agencies were pleased with the overwhelming response of the public who were enthusiastic in receiving the free vouchers in exchange for a plant in participating island nurseries. Teregeyo said the vouchers were made available through a federal grant and distributed on a first-come-first- serve basis.

WC to conduct independent monitoring of SGMA

Comprehensive independent monitoring of 31 Saipan garment manufacturers by one of the world's premier professional services firms is set to begin next month under a new contract between the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association (SGMA) and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC). Internationally recognized for their work to improve business excellence, PWC will provide monitoring compliance for SGMA members with the "Standards for the Treatment of Workers and Working Conditions and Standards for Living" set forth in the SGMA Code of Conduct. Under a contract signed Sept. 27 by SGMA executive director Richard A. Pierce, the association will join other non-government organizations, such as advocacy groups, religious organizations and social service providers with PWC for a comprehensive external/independent monitoring program.

Oct. 6, 2000

US cruise ship 'Sky Princess' to make historic visit

The U.S. cruise ship Sky Princess is making its maiden voyage to Saipan and will be docking at Charlie Dock on Oct. 10. Most of the 1,200 passengers will spend the day sight-seeing and shopping, but for the 160 or so veterans on board the day will be packed with ceremony and special tours to World War II sites. Jerry Facey, former co-chair of the Committte for the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of World War II, has reactivated the committee to assure a memorable visit for the veterans. "This is the largest group of veterans to visit the island, even larger than the group that returned in 1994," Mr. Facey says. For weeks representatives from the Governor's Office, Marianas Visitors Authority, Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Mayor's Office, the Veterans Affairs Office, the Historic Preservation Office, the Department of Public Works, the Division of Public Lands, the Department of Public Safety and National Park Service have been planning an island welcome.

CNMI lags behind in ADA compliance standards

Organizers lamented yesterday a low turn out to the Americans with Disabilities Act workshop on facility compliance, recording very little participation from business and government entities on an issue that also affects them. Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. Programs Coordinator Jim Rayphand expressed disappointment that business/establishment owners did not show up to increase their awareness on ADA-compliancy standards mandated of their agencies. "Every facility must comply with ADA and it should follow that people running the facility should know about it. I think if there were more lawsuits, there would be more people," said Mr. Rayphand.

Oct. 6, 2002

Students celebrate cultural diversity

Tanapag Elementary School students, donned in various costumes, displayed the arts and crafts of different cultures representing the Commonwealth's diverse community during a whole-day Celebration of Culture Friday. Bilingual teachers headed the cultural day that presented the different aspects of each ethnic group in the Northern Marianas including Filipino, Chamorro/Carolinian, the Federated States of Micronesia, Japanese, Chinese, Mexican, and Jamaican, among others. Tanapag School Principal Francesca Ulloa also conducted a cooking exhibition that featured Japanese and local dishes like titiyas and bunelos. The school administration also invited the Historic Preservation Office to hold an activity on the remains of sea creatures, while representatives from another government agency assisted in teaching the students how to fish.

2010 KOREAN FESTIVAL

A night of culture and dance

PHOTOS AND TEXT By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Korean culture was at its best Monday night as members of the community watched cultural performances in celebration of the 2010 Korean Festival.

Stunning, vibrant costumes and amazing performances filled the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center as members of the Yehwa Dance Company and Choi Jaehee Dance Company staged their cultural presentations.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, who welcomed performers and guests, stressed the importance of music and dance in art and culture as it helps build a sense of national identity.

"Entertainment through music and dance provides a sense of unity by bridging the gap between cultures that spoken languages cannot and creates universal community," said Flores.

Members of the Saipan Korean Folk Music Group served as the opening act for the program which began at 7:30pm.

Choreographers Yoo Kyung Sook and Choi Jae Hee led the elementary and high school dance students from Korea who rendered emotive as well as lively dance routines.

In an interview after the show, Sook and Hee told *Saipan Tribune* that they have been dancing since they were young and have been teaching the art for more than 15 years.

"It's so good to see so many Koreans on Saipan and we feel very honored performing for them," said Hee.

According to Sook, they tell different stories through their dance performances. "Every dance has a story. Through dancing, we express deeply how each story concludes," she said.

While Hee is on island for the first time and Sook is on her second trip to Saipan, both teachers feel happy to be invited to perform on this island paradise in the Pacific.

"We admire the breathtaking view, the beautiful sunsets, and the clean air," said Sook.

Jun Ho Park of the P,Art Music Academy organized the 2010 Korean Festival through the assistance of the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Since 1994, the P,Art Music Academy of Saipan has been inviting dance companies from Korea to celebrate Korean culture and to join in the Liberation Day festivities.

Young Korean dancers bop to the Korean hit single "Nobody" Monday night at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Korean dancers holding flower props during one of their presentations.

Dancers in gold masks and black attire.

From left, choreographers Choi Jae Hee and Yoo Kyung Sook, organizer Jun Ho Park of the P,Art Academy, and co-emcee Susanne Park.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores presents a plaque of appreciation to Choi Jae Hee of the Choi Jaehee Dance Company and Yoo Kyung Sook of the Yehwa Dance Company.

Members of the Yehwa Dance Company perform a traditional Korean dance.

Esner Eina and Karte Eina
BOX XMB 112 P.O. Box 504849
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 288-0576

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO APPOINT GENERAL GUARDIANSHIP FOR: **RESTNER EINA MARAS** Minor Child by ESNER EINA and KARTE EINA Petitioner.	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0509 NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named minor child by Esner and Karte Eina, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition of Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Kenneth Govendo on the 25th day of October, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. or soon as thereafter.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **LAURA I. MANGLONA and THOMAS M. MANGLONA,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 08-0214-CV** **SECOND NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 23, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 003 R 30 (formerly known as Block 31, Lot 6), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 003 R 00, the original of which was registered on November 12, 1971 as Document No. 1290 at Land Registry, Saipan, situated on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 651 square meters, more or less, and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on September 12, 1996 as Document No. 96-2289.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on October 29, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 30th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **JESUS S. BARCINAS,** Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 08-0349-CV** **SECOND NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 14, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property.

1) Lot EA 120-2, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 2,165 square meters, more or less; and

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on October 22, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

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5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 13th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 238

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Not on the same page

One can't help but wonder: What would former Israeli Prime Ministers Ariel Sharon or Yitzhak Rabin have done if their foreign ministers had delivered jaw-dropping speeches to the U.N. General Assembly contradicting their policies on peacemaking with the Palestinians, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's did this week?

Netanyahu ostensibly is seeking a comprehensive peace agreement with the Palestinians within a year through U.S.-brokered negotiations. His foreign minister, Avigdor Lieberman, a West Bank settler who heads the ultranationalist Yisrael Beiteinu (Israel Our Home) party, let the world body know he disagrees with the approach. He doesn't buy the "land for peace" swap at the heart of negotiations and thinks it would be better to simply trade land or redraw the border so that most Israelis in the West Bank end up inside Israel and many Palestinian citizens of Israel end up, well, on the other side. Second, he says, "emotional problems" make a final deal impossible now, so he prefers an intermediate agreement implemented over decades.

Netanyahu and Lieberman are part of a coalition government that supposedly shares a vision of Israel's future. But Netanyahu's response when Lieberman went off the rails was to plead ignorance. Lieberman's speech hadn't been cleared with the prime minister, his office said, and Netanyahu is the one heading negotiations, which take place at the negotiating table and nowhere else. What the prime minister didn't do is order Lieberman to get in line or get out, which would seem to be the obvious response to such insubordination. As a result, Netanyahu looks either weak (something Sharon and Rabin wouldn't have countenanced) or insincere about peacemaking.

Lieberman's party is the second-largest member of the coalition, and its seats in the Knesset are needed to keep the current government in power. In part to keep Yisrael Beiteinu happy, Netanyahu has refused to extend a freeze on West Bank settlement construction, while simultaneously appealing to Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas not to walk away from the negotiations. This undermines Palestinian faith in the talks and weakens Abbas as well. The Obama administration reportedly has offered security guarantees and military hardware in exchange for another two-month moratorium. So far they have been rejected in deference to so-called political realities.

Netanyahu is clearly under pressure to appease his coalition partners. But what is the value of holding together a coalition government that isn't committed to peacemaking, which, after all, must be the priority for Israel, the rest of the region and the world? If Netanyahu's partners don't agree with him on how to make peace, perhaps it's time to get new partners.

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FAMILY TREE
...AND THAT'S JUST THE BRANCHES THAT LIVE HERE.
CENSUS DATA: RECESSION HAS KILLED OFF THE "EMPTY NEST."
KIRK
©2010 the Toledo Blade
e-mail: kirk@theblade.com

Discountenance in our Oktoberfast

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

Malt brew aficionados are familiar with the global phenomenon called Oktoberfest. Residents of Harbin and Zurich, Bonn and Sao Paolo, Milwaukee and Malta, Tokyo, and Singapore, all gather around a keg and float their delights in the heady influence of the monastic nutrient. You see, desert Essenes and European monks were into fasting, so the old hermitage dwellers just took the grains and fermented them for supper! Or, downed their early breakfast as soon as the Prior or Abbot went solitary after *Matins*.

Our Capital Hill road brewery has long been idle and the *brewski* of preference comes with sweet things at Godfather in Garapan. No complaints there save that our wallet had long ago said *Nyet* to that non-essential expenditure. So we pine by our window listening to Nat King Cole or Frank Sinatra (yes, am that old) croon: *The falling leaves/Drift by my window/The falling leaves/Of red and gold. I see your lips/The summer kisses/The sunburned hands/I used to hold.*

Vague memories of a long ago sojourn on Mt. Katahdin in Maine with a rowdy group of high school students bursting with repressed hormones chaperoned by the Congregational ladies come to mind. Autumn then was a stately and dignified stance of shedding withering parts with the hope of surviving winter and blossoming again in Spring.

With *La Niña* in our skies, we are not short of humidity so we do not see red and gold on the dried leaves that fall on our windowsill. But there are numerous red faces (other than *brewski* consumers) running around island—those who are not quite sure how to greet constituents affected by the government shutdown, or the legislator wondering how s/he allowed the power play maneuvers endemic of the profession regardless of the consequences to occur. Then there are the business entrepreneurs who yet again have to get another loan to float the business until the better times promised eons ago but since long forgotten might somehow miraculously show up.

Oktoberfast. Not a regular practice in these parts by residents, unless you are a Vegan doing your tai-chi in the living room in your Calvins, in which case, one is allowed later a family-size bottle of *pi jiu* from the *brewmeisters* who have since mastered the art and delicate taste of distillery since *die lehrehrin* left the shores Tsingdao (Qingdao) of Bo Hai.

My friend in Tinian is hollering. What the hell are you writing about? Can we connect the dots somewhere here? *No hay problema, pero* we can only afford tai-chi in our kitchen with our Hanes where onlookers can see us motion meditating with our girth watered by cheap Red Horse, showing that our Oktoberfast is not having any effect.

We were on one of our humanitarian moods when we resigned from PSS to seek alternative medicine for our spondylosis 20 moons ago. We did not heed advise to either go on medical leave so that we can remain on benefits, or apply for disability since we had a 'desperate' medical condition that required surgery and could be made to look 'bad' on paper. Though ripe of age for retiremnent, I had not worked long enough to qualify in the CNMI. But I figured my *mojo* and *chutzpah* can carry me where others are fearful to tread, and I could survive. Besides, Uncles Ben/Eloy were quite literally limping, and I was not about to add to their burden. The loss was considerable, I discovered later. We learn!

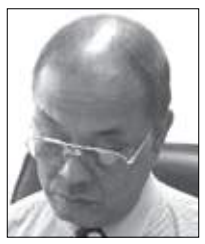
We came from a mendicant lifestyle; we did not find it necessary to negotiate entry level rate at PSS. It is an educational institution, for heaven's sake. Labor is not an exploited commodity there, we said. Then our Masters Degree was not recognized, and though we thought we qualified for the Standard Certification after two years, we went through loops to get it; when it finally came, the system was too broke to accord us the salary adjustment. All these were forgiven, save we were dipping on my kid's children's inheritance, so we went into an entitlement mode and cajoled our way to getting what was due us.

Feeling perky and healthy again, the system showed shortage of HQT teachers at the High School level, so I took and passed (way beyond requirement) my middle and high school PRAXIS. I reactivated my file as early as February, sent letters to all the post-elementary schools with instructions that I was unencumbered and

See DISCOUNTENANCE on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Aloha 'N Ethnicity



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

The State of Aloha has the largest ethnicity than any other state in the union. There are the Polynesians and Statesiders who have taken root in Hawaii as well as Chinese, Koreans, Japanese, Russians, Filipinos, Malaysians, Singaporeans, Australians, New Zealanders, and Micronesians, among other ethnic groups.

The combined cultures created a rich and permanent rainbow nurtured by a generous sense of fellowship to make the Aloha State the best destination between the continental U.S. and the Asian mainland. In the businesses that they have established, they also go out of their way to promote the state as Your Next Destination!

Hawaii leads the entire Pacific Region in tropical agriculture. It has produced, through the University of Hawaii, hybrid products that are resistant to diseases. It includes mango, lemon, macadamia nuts, taro, pineapple, guava, cacao, and their by-products. The Aloha State is also strong on information technology, international banking, and international conventions involving business meetings of CEOs from throughout Japan and Asia. It is also equipped with a fully organized marketing arm to promote Hawaiian products globally from tourism to superior handicraft work. It's busy raking in money while we're busy haggling over divvying a meager $132 million for FY2011. We're oceans apart in paradigms!

The fusion of business are gracefully embraced with the wonderful spirit of aloha converging at least annually to gauge progress in their specific industry and how they have dealt with marketing the products of Aloha in the U.S. and Asia. There's the abundance mentality where almost every deal results in a win-win situation. And there's always room to refine policies and products as it competes with nearby Asian countries for everything that there's to sell in the global village.

Ethnicity is a celebratory aspect of everyday life in the Aloha State. I watched the Hawaiian Cultural Festival last week that included most everybody pitching into the grand parade on Ala Moana Boulevard to the festival ground. A Ski, Wi, Li, Yamamoto, Hyun, Santos, Aguilar, Ho, and Cruz were some of the few names I saw along the parade route. There are plenty of traditional dishes on sale making for a colorful rainbow as each group performs music and dances joined by most everybody.

I listened to the melodic harmony that made Hawaiian songs famous. I'm convinced that anyone who can sing in harmony would make it to the bitter end. The folks around came from far away places long time ago when their great grandparents took roots in Hawaii. However different they may be ethnically, there's harmony in their relationships as each culture celebrates its tradition throughout the year. In brief, they are too busy helping each other as to ignore their last name. It's the boat of harmony that lifts everybody however the tough times. Isn't harmony part of our cultural tradition?

I wish I didn't have to meet these terms and the corresponding devastation it would wreak against the livelihood of hundreds of families here. But it hung in my mind like a broken branch of a plant dangling on a single fiber ready to be reduced to debris by another whippy blow of trade winds rushing down the hills of Manoa.

Posterity's Future

As I leave the parade route enjoying the brisk trade winds whipping against my face, there was a certain fear in the realm of uncertainty that kept snaking in and out of my mind. I was apprehensive going through the process of elimination to figure it out the unexplained fear. I ran into the three beastly terms: uncertainty, hopelessness and joblessness.

I wish I didn't have to meet these terms and the corresponding devastation it would wreak against the livelihood of hundreds of families here. But it hung in my mind like a broken branch of a plant dangling on a single fiber ready to be reduced to debris by another whippy blow of trade winds rushing down the hills of Manoa.

Walking back to the hotel, I started seeing the dreadful meeting of family patriarchs and matriarchs hugging their children pondering what lies ahead. It isn't an optimistic scenario but it prompts the inevitable: Is it time to relocate elsewhere where the grass is greener. Is there still hope or has it morphed into sagging hopelessness? Will hopelessness change into the dreaded joblessness for hundreds of our people? How long would the wraths of uncertainty rip or tear our now fragile mind into shreds of total hopelessness?

With these questions in mind, I tested my nephew (who just graduated from high school) about returning home. Said he: "Hell no!" Opportunities for education and jobs are greater in Honolulu than in our teeny paradise where nothing works. I felt hurt by his expression or the idea that there's no future for him back home. It illustrates in no uncertain terms how collective leadership has failed our young people from A-Z.

I tried to calmly navigate the treacherous rough seas of insolvency. But the most prominent feature that kept rebounding is the unsustainable posture of the local government. In brief, we spend more than what we collect in revenues. For instance, there's a shortfall of $11.5 million that would be further exacerbated by an impending shortfall of $12.5 million. It has set the stage for the inevitable: Steady march towards Deb Cliff!

Perhaps we ought to begin building our bamboo reed airplane in hopes that by some miracle it could take off at night when most everybody is fast asleep and let her spray mula down the blue skies of paradise. But that would quite a fantasy that only took place after the war on some island in the Pacific. As dreadful as it may be, there's nothing but despair and no matter how you twist it, the ugly fangs of hopelessness is steady and sturdy in its forward movement to implant abject poverty in every corner of paradise. Sad the ruination of posterity's future!

Struggle for power

By FRANCISCO S. DELA CRUZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dela Cruz is a member of the 17th House of Representatives

Fellow members of this House and to the people of the CNMI,

Throughout this shutdown ordeal that continues to this day, we continue to deliberate, discuss, and even argue the merits of the commonwealth budget.

Prior to this day we have seen cancellation after cancellation of sessions occur because the leadership in the House, for a lack of a better word "is needing more time to look over the amended senate version with the administration." During this process when the governor sees that it (Senate version) is not to his liking, instruction are then made to the House leadership to scrap and introduce new budget legislation and of course this is heeded by the leadership of the House. Not trying to sound sarcastic but it is clear to all that tails of this leadership are being held. It is clear that members of the House leadership cannot act, think, and make decisions on their own without fear of reprisal from the governor who they are aligned with. I must admit that some in the leadership have somewhat begun to think for themselves on certain issues and for that I applaud them.

The struggle for power to this day in this Legislature continues thereby benefitting no one in the Commonwealth. Some people in the community are starting to be disillusioned by all that is going on and even going as far as agreeing to a 16-hour work reduction per pay period and all legal holidays unpaid while agreeing to give our illustrious leaders in the House $400,000 for their leadership account. Some of our people are giving up is what I am trying to ally here.

Let's talk a little about what had transpired during discussion at last Saturday's session. When the issue of the $400,000 leadership funding was brought up, Speaker Froilan was quick to point out that this amount is what the Constitution called for. Last I checked, the language in the Constitution stated "up to $400,000." The other statement he made was that his committees are not able to hold public hearings in the first and second senatorial districts (Rota and Tinian) because of the lack of funds. On this issue I personally feel that going to Rota and Tinian with your long sleeve shirts and ties to hold public hearing on legislations are at the bottom of the list of priorities for the people of these two islands.

During this same discussion, the chairman for Ways and Means argued that this $400,000 may also be used to hire an economist, but why must the House leadership hire an economist and not through the Legislative Bureau as this makes better sense. The chairman for ways and means also during our discussions on the budget lashed out at us (minority block) insisting that we must all wake up and smell the coffee. I don't know what coffee chairman Basa smells but if this coffee is going to cost us $400,000 then I believe we must all revisit our coffee drinking habits.

I attempted to make amendments on H.B. 17-121, HS1 which was to cap austerity from 16 hours to eight plus 10 unpaid holidays because it was not clear in this legislation as written. The following is the exact provision as introduced under Section 701 starting on page 21 line 10:

Expenditure authorities may reduce previous levels of expenditure by:

- A reduction in work hours;
- A reduction in wages;
- Furlough;
- A reduction in force;
- A reduction in expenditures for "all others"; or
- A combination of reductions under subsections (1) through (5)

I find that the above language gives unlimited power to our governor in doing whatever it takes inclusive of getting rid of any employee in government because this legislature has given him all the blessing. I and other members of the minority block did not agree and I then offered my amendment.

My amendment to the above language is as follows:

Expenditure authorities may reduce previous levels of expenditure by:

- A reduction in hours not to exceed eight hours per bi-weekly pay period and no more than ten un-paid holidays. or
- At the discretion of the expenditure authority, a reduction in expenditures for "all others", to achieve a level of reduction equal to the reduction of the appropriations for personnel. or
- A combination of reductions under subsections (1) and (2).

The above amendment was shut down by the leadership on a vote of 11-9 because as chairman Basa contends no one can identify $9 million to offset the extra work hours of reduction. Before I had a chance to rebut, a representative responded that his own budget bill gives the expenditure authorities and the governor the flexibility to implement cuts in other areas. Rep. Ray Yumul also stated that this budget bill gave the governor 100 percent reprogramming authority pursuant to section 501 of the said legislation. I don't know if chairman Basa had read this section in his own measure or not but be that as it may, this sends a very awkward signal to all that missed this important part of the bill.

The house leadership is hell bent on the 16-hour work cut per pay period. I would like to clarify once and for all to all the people of the Commonwealth that as per the governor's submittal of a "balanced budget" dated April 1, 2010 and transmitted to the House and Senate, his letter most especially on page 4 item 2 reads as follows:

2) imposition of austerity measures through reduced work hours equivalent to 10 hours per pay period or 12.5% of payroll.

To the House leadership, if you still feel that 16 hours of austerity is what's needed to satisfy the governor's submittal then please read the above as it contradicts the governor's budget submittal. I understand that this budget process has made history in our commonwealth by not having a budget and an eventual shut down, I am not proud to say I was a part of this. Indeed it is a very sad part of our Commonwealth history. I can only surmise that we now take this time to come together and work so that we may come out of this entangled chapter in our lives. I humbly ask the House leadership to LEAD and show our people that we all can overcome this adversity. The minority block stands ready to sit down, discuss, and hopefully come to a real and genuine compromise. I am sure that the Senate is also more than willing to work with you.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

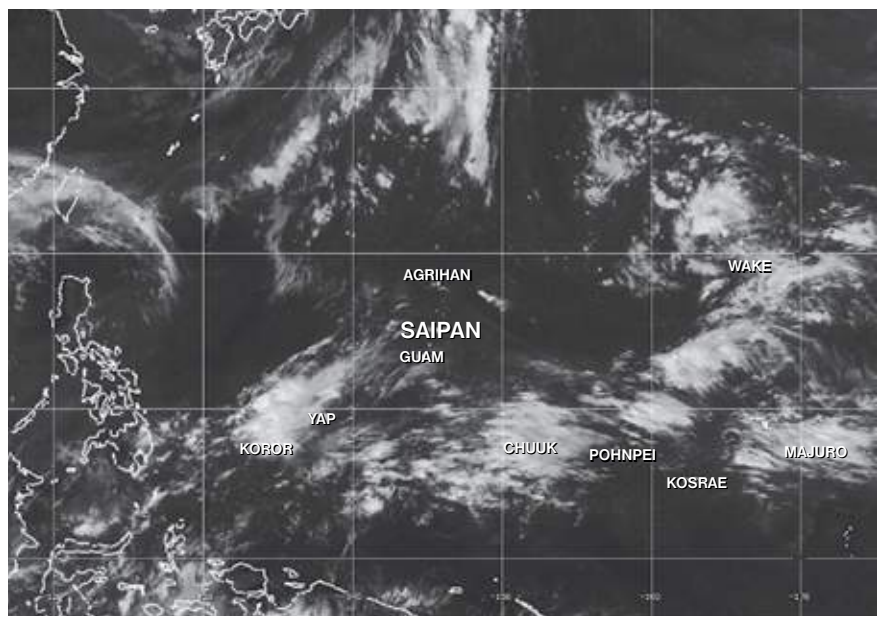
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲87	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲84	▼75
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲90	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼52
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼55
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲79	▼66
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
London	Rain	▲59	▼48
Los Angeles	Showers	▲73	▼54
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼45
Miami	Showers	▲83	▼70
New York	Showers	▲65	▼51
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼61
Paris	Showers	▲70	▼54
Pusan	Sunny	▲73	▼63
Rome	Sunny	▲77	▼56
Salem	Sunny	▲77	▼51
San Francisco	Showers	▲64	▼58
Seoul	Sunny	▲74	▼55
Tokyo	Showers	▲73	▼64
Washington, DC	Showers	▲65	▼53

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper low northwest of Wake Island near 26N158E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line extending from 15N166E to beyond 25N163E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in three areas across Micronesia, the first over Palau and west of Yap between 6N and 12N from 133E to 137E, the second extending from southeast of Yap across Chuuk and north of Pohnpei within 220 miles of a line extending from 5N141E to 8N155E and within 140 miles of a line continuing from 8N155E to 15N166E, and the third across Kwajalein and Majuro between 5N and 9N from 165E to 175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:02 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
5:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
12:14 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
6:24 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	6:02 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:12 AM	4:38 PM
Thursday	5:12 AM	5:23 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	7:14 AM	7:09 PM
Sunday	7:14 AM	7:09 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Letter to the Editor

CUC to privatize or to co-op it

First off to go co-op is a form of privatization.But let us look at the normal form of privatization. You sell the CUC to an off-island company. The first thing that will happen is that all the local employees will loss their jobs: based on qualification and experience. Secondly, the rates will go up. They will have to spend millions of dollars to get up to speed. They will want to recover their money as fast as possible: so up go the rates. All the money that they make will leave the island. How do you expect to build up your economy when all the money is going out and nothing stays here?

Now let's look at the possibilities of a co-op. The utility will belong to its shareholders, who will be residents of the CNMI. They will not demand a quick recovery of their money. We will place a priority on hiring locals whenever possible. If there is not a local trained for the job we will train one to take the job as soon as he is trained.

I have a five-year plan for CUC. It may seem a bit aggressive, but it can be done. When the co-op gets control of CUC we go out and find investors who want to invest in alternative power. First, we look at tidal power at Banzai Point. It has been studied and they claim that they can get 130 megawatts of generation out of it. That will be more than sufficient to supply Saipan. We will sign a contract for them to construct the tidal power facility. They will build it and sell CUC power for a set period of time and then turn it over to CUC. They will be able to sell us power cheaper than we can produce it with the diesels. That will get rid of the fuel surcharge. That will get Saipan and Tinian for five, five megawatt current generators. That will more than supply Tinian. So we do the same thing. Find an investor to install them and sell us power for a set period of time. Now we look at Rota. Windmill power will talk care of Rota. Same deal find and investor to put them in place and sell us power for a period of time.

Sure they will make money, but so will we. And when they turn it all over to us we will make a lot of money. And it will all stay right here and we will provide jobs for the locals. For during the buy power period we will be sending locals to school to learn how to operate and maintain the systems. As soon as we are on the alternative power we can surcharge. We will have to operate for a period of time to find out how the cash input is going to match the operating cost, then we will be able to establish a per kilowatt rate for the customers. When they turn the facilities over to use we will be able to cut the rates even further. As soon as we can shutdown power plant four it will save CUC between $5-$8 million dollars a year. We can shutdown the Telesource operation on Tinian we can save almost twice that amount.

We will have to work on water too. That answer is the same. Have an investor build a de-cell plant. The bigger the better. If it is big enough we will be able to shut down some water wells and give them time to re-establish the fresh water lenses in them, then when we bring them back on line they will be producing fresh water (not brackish water). The wastewater will not be that big of a problem. It is just a matter of repairing the treatment plants and getting them back to full operation. Part of the money that we are going to need will come from the sale of share. The rest we will have to borrow. Borrowing money will not be that hard, there are a lot of investors out there that will loan money to the co-op, who will not even talk to this government. I am suggesting that we sell the shares for ten dollars each. That way anyone who wants to will be able to buy shares and have a say in the operation of the co-op.

I am suggesting that we have six-man management team run the co-op. One person who understands power generation, one who understands power distribution, one who understands water drilling and distribution, one who understands waste water treatment and disposal. We are going to need a comptroller who has utility company experience, who knows how to project revenue and set rates. We are also going to need a lawyer with utility experience, who can write contracts and RPF's that will not be challenged. You may say that this is crazy dream. Well if you have a better plan let's hear from you. We can no longer afford the incompetent leadership at CUC and the administration. It is time for the people to stand up and take charge of their own future. If you are not willing to stand up and be counted then quit complaining about how things are going. Just dig deep into your pockets and try to suffer it out. Do not count on the local lawmakers to save you. They are all too busy with their interest to take time to help the people.

Once we get a solid infrastructure in place we can go out and bring in honest investors. The key word here is honest investors. Then we can get the island and economy turned around.

Frederick Prosser
As Matuis

P.S.

I want to comment the Senate for standing up and holding their ground on the budget. I am glad they did not let the House blackmail them with the casino bill. The casino bill had nothing to do with this year's budget. It is just members of the House who want to jam the casino down the people's throat. If they like it or not, next election we need to take a good look at the House members who are supporting the casino. They are clearly self-serving individuals. When the speaker of the House said it is time to downsize the government, he finally said something I can agree with.

So sad and scary of what comes next

I would like to share this story of a person who wants to me to share it with everyone out there, who are affected by this payless payday and shutdown.

On the my first delayed payday, I had additional obligations for late charges, reconnection, and reduced of my shopping list for necessities. My son and my daughter who graduated from high school still can't find a job because most of the job openings are too complicated for them. The college is closed and the chance for getting help is not so good. Yes, NMC has representatives here, but we have other needs in order to go in and apply or ask for help.

Then comes the shutdown. I panicked and bought extra supplies to last for at least three weeks and pay what is important first and leave the rest for a miracle to come. I sat down and try to make a plan should I be out of a job for good, how can I make money for my credit obligation. I think of farming, but the challenges are too many—no manpower, no market, no equipment, and no utility money for water. So, I thought about borrowing money, but no job to pay it. Then I though about fishing, again no boat, no fishing gear, and no gas money for the boat. I never tried to apply for food stamp but someone told me it is not enough to buy fishing equipment and none for gas. So all day, I sat down and I asked myself, so what's next?

Loose my car, loose my house, loose my phone, then loose my mind. Oh boy.....this is scary. So I sat there and tell my friend, "you know you're not alone, there are many others like you," And then he looked at me and said "You're wrong, others steal, sell drugs, and some take bribe money to break the law. I'm so scared I never do these things. I never try food stamp, lie, or cheat others. I love God but I don't know this time how am I going to ask him for help. Our leaders are mad, and everyone is following him, how can I ask him by myself to help me, help others fight hate with love?" I look at my friend and tears fall down my cheek and hug my friend and I said "You're right, it is so hard to fight hate with love, and very few people can do that today. Me too, I'm very sad and scared of what will happen next to our home, that use to be full of love. When I'm hungry all my neighbors feed me, when I'm tired all my neighbors come and help me, when I'm sick, they take turn to visit, our priest will visit us too, they share their first harvest, they give us the nicest one, when you go out in the jungle there is abundance of food, birds singing, when you go fishing you don't need line, just a bucket, and when you leave your home your neighbors will watch it for you. All gone, when this hatred and greed for money arises and overcome our world of pure love."

I'm so sad and scared of what will happen to our children.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

Help CNMI during this tough times

Hafa adai and aloha all! I ask that friends, family, and anyone willing and able to help tehe CNMI in this tough time of crisis. I'm asking for donations of food, clothes, etc... not necessarily monetary but anything that can be of use for the children, adults, and family who are affected by the government shutdown.

In addition, even just by starting with your household and asking everyone to put a donation box and ship it to Saipan, should you be in the mainland or off-island. Whatever means and ways you can come up with to help can make a great difference in the lives of the people affected.

Please contact me, Darlyn (Honolulu, Hawaii) Mr. Ed Propst (Saipan), family, friends, CNMI government donation agencies, or anyone you know is from the island and let us unite together and help the CNMI. Thank you very much and in the indigenous language of the Marianas, *Si Yu'us Maase*.

Darlyn Salas Babauta
Honolulu, Hawaii

Kudos to PSS

The Public School System made a good point publishing its actual student enrollment data for the present school year. I applaud this effort, now we are able to see the actual enrollment data as this information is a basic education information that hinges on how PSS's resources are allocated and expended.

Projecting student enrollment is part of the ongoing need for accurate data information to gatekeepers and stakeholders in PSS' enterprise. It is now a necessary and usual part of PSS undertaking to publish its student enrollment projections for subsequent school years starting from SY2010-2011 school year. Using the birthrate data as the starting point, other valid assumption included and the actual SY2010-2011 timeframe, a five-year student enrollment projection should be prepared and published as well. As a concerned citizen and stakeholder of PSS, student enrollment data is important to me as a measuring yardstick to evaluate PSS' blueprint for student excellence and its use of public funds for resources it utilizes to achieve the optimum outcome in public education in the CNMI.

Student enrollment projection is a standard tool in public education as clam is to clam chowder soup. Hence, the Board of Education should require that this data be published in advance, and not just a few days after the official school year begins. Because of the so-called blue print for excellence in PSS, student enrollment information should be an integral part of that plan. When PSS closed the SY2010-2011 school year, we should be able to see how the plan worked out, but somehow the plan is a living document and certainly SY2011-2012 school year is a projection that makes the business of public education in the CNMI that critical to concerned citizens and stakeholders. It is to be expected that plans do change, so does the student enrollment projection data which is influenced by a lot of factors and valid assumptions. Hence, the accuracy of current student enrollment data should serve as the foundation to crystal ball how changing student enrollment data will play out in subsequent school years.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa

Not coming home soon

My name is Shayna Kileleman. I was born and raised on Saipan. My parents' house is actually down the street from the *Saipan Tribune* office.

I am currently in the U.S. Navy and I am about to get out. My four years is coming up in December. Unfortunately I will not be returning home because of the economic state our islands is in.

Especially on the recent government shutdown that showed that our leaders failed to do their job. As much as I would love to live there one day on Beach Road in Garapan, I cannot be a part of what is going on there. I am concerned for our islands but I am still in shock. I just wanted to voice out that we are still listening out here in the mainland U.S. and we are still being hopeful that we will one day return to a flourishing CNMI!

Petty Officer 3rd Class Shayna Kileleman
Via email

DISCOUNTENANCE

From Page 10

would take posting in any of the three islands. Made the follow-up phone calls summertime while principals finalized their staffing. I was told to keep the phone on.

Confident, I went into a healthy lifestyle of walking, swimming and biking, cleared the cobwebs of the mind, and retained tranquility and stillness of the soul. *Jaime,* someone whispered, *HR can hire two newbies for the price of U.* True or not, this is now academic. September came and the phone remained still. The whisper became louder, and I finally heard the good news: I did not have to wait any longer. Time to move on.

Charley at PSS HR encouraged other modes of involvement, but for now, like the not-so-innocent shutdown suffering masses (the last census reveals an embarrassing gap between the rich and the poor in this the USofA!), I'll do my Oktoberfast; but unlike most, I don't have to raft it to Guam. I am able to go slice turkey with family in Oahu on my own accord. Mendicancy does allow one to travel light.

If you have an extra stool on your Oktoberfest by the lagoon, I am not proud. Give me a call! Meanwhile, *The falling leaves, drifts by my window . . .*

Business

Govt sues 3 biggest credit cards, settles with 2

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Justice Department on Monday sued the three largest U.S. credit card companies for anticompetitive practices and reached a proposed settlement with two of them, MasterCard and Visa.

"We want to put more money in consumers' pockets, and by eliminating credit card companies' anticompetitive rules, we will accomplish exactly that," Attorney General Eric Holder told an afternoon news conference. "The companies put merchants and their customers in a no-win situation" and "consumers are being held hostage."

American Express Co. said it is willing to wage a multiyear fight against the federal lawsuit, arguing that the Justice Department's proposed remedy would promote steering customers from one payment network to another and "will do nothing to enhance competition."

In papers filed in federal court in Brooklyn, the department and various state attorneys general sued all three companies, saying they were attempting to insulate themselves from competition.

AP

Attorney General Eric Holder, accompanied by Assistant Attorney General Christine Varney, speaks during a news conference at the Justice Department in Washington, Monday, Oct. 4, 2010

At the same time, the Justice Department filed a settlement it has reached with Visa and MasterCard. Court approval of such settlements is usually a formality.

Under the settlement, Visa and MasterCard agree not to prohibit merchants from offering customers discounts or rebates for using a particular kind of card. Visa and MasterCard also must allow merchants to express preferences for the use of a low-cost card within a network or other form of payment.

The lawsuit says the card companies are impeding merchants from promoting the use of competing credit or charge cards with lower acceptance fees.

Each time consumers use a credit card to make a purchase, the merchant must pay a fee. Such fees brought in $35 billion last year to the three credit card companies and their affiliated banks.

"We're partway there" with the proposed agreement with Visa and MasterCard, Assistant Attorney General Christine Varney, head of the department's antitrust division, told the news conference.

"We remain open" to seek a settlement with American Express," Varney added.

Shares of American Express closed at $39.05, down more than 6 percent; MasterCard ended at $222.64 down less than 1 percentage point, and Visa was down for the day at $73.24, losing less than a quarter percentage point.

Joining the lawsuit were state attorneys general from Maryland, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Texas.

American Express maintained that its agreements with merchants protect its cardholders, who tend to be more affluent and spend more than other card users. Moreover, the company said, many of its merchant contracts do allow promotions.

"In effect, the government is arguing that we cannot freely negotiate with our merchants about how they treat our card members at the point of sale," said Amex General Counsel Louise Parent. She said the contracts are "intended to shield consumers from pressure by merchants not to use the cards of their choice."

Toyota says most recalled US cars and trucks fixed

WASHINGTON (AP)—Toyota has repaired most of the 5.6 million cars and trucks it has recalled in the U.S. for flaws that could trigger unwanted acceleration, citing progress in rebuilding its reputation for safety.

The automaker has been working to improve quality controls as it deals with sliding market share following its massive recalls. The world's largest automaker said in a report Monday that it had aggressively responded to safety problems at the urging of its president, Akio Toyoda, and top company officials.

Toyota has recalled more than 10 million vehicles worldwide over the last year for a wide range of problems, including some that have nothing to do with unwanted acceleration. The company has appointed several quality review panels and given more autonomy to regional operations as it aims to improve quality.

The government has received about 3,000 complaints about sudden acceleration and estimated the problem could be involved in the deaths of 93 people over the last decade.

On Monday, Toyota said it is expanding the role of engineering teams that have been sent out to examine cars that owners claim sped up on their own. Those teams will now check out other problems raised by owners, although Toyota declined to say what the issues are.

It also has begun installing brake override systems on all cars and trucks built this year and will install so-called black boxes in all its automobiles starting with the 2011 model year.

Brake override technology automatically cuts the throttle when the brake and gas pedals are pressed at the same time. Black boxes, officially called Event Data Recorders, track what's going on in a car in the moments before and after a crash. They are often used by investigators to piece together the cause of an accident. Toyota is adding these safety features as Congress considers legislation requiring them in cars.

Toyota said it had repaired 3.7 million of the 5.6 million cars and trucks recalled for sticky gas pedals and floor mats that can trap accelerators. Those problems have been implicated in unintended acceleration incidents in Toyotas.

The company also said it has fixed 86 percent of the 148,000 Prius and Lexus hybrids recalled due to a problem with the antilock brakes.

Toyota said it was receiving about 800 phone calls a week in April about unintended acceleration complaints, but its consumer hot line now receives about 150 phone calls per week. Toyota officials said they did not find any link to electronic problems—a possible culprit raised by lawyers and safety advocates—after reviewing 4,200 vehicles in which owners alleged problems with unwanted acceleration.

BoG Christmas card contest deadline on Oct. 8

HAGATNA, Guam — The deadline for Bank of Guam's 4th Annual Christmas Card Contest is this Friday, Oct. 8, 2010. Entries are being accepted from elementary and middle school students throughout Guam, the CNMI, Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"An Island Christmas Wish" is this year's theme. The medium is a 4X6 card entry using watercolors, pastel crayon, colored pencils or acrylic paints only. Prizes as follows:

First Prize: $250.00
Second Prize: $175.00
Third Prize: $100.00

Prizes also to include a gift basket of school supplies.

Contest rules and application are available at all elementary and middle Schools, at any Bank of Guam branch or its website www.bankofguam.com.

For additional information, call Kebrina Duenas at 472-5236. ***(BoG)***

Fed boss: Threat from deficits 'real and growing'

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—The economy could be hurt if Congress and the White House fail to come up with a plan to curb the nation's huge budget deficits in the coming years, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke warned Monday.

Bernanke, in a speech prepared for delivery, reiterated his belief that the government shouldn't raise taxes or slash spending now because the economic recovery is still too fragile.

But failing to bring the deficits under control could endanger the economy later on, he said. Exploding budget deficits can lead to higher interest rates for people buying homes and cars, and for businesses buying equipment or expanding operations. That could crimp Americans' spending and slow economic growth.

"The threat to our economy is real and growing," Bernanke said. "The sooner a plan is established, the longer affected individuals will have to prepare for the necessary changes."

Oil industry has yet to adopt lessons of BP spill

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Oil industry and government officials could get caught flat-footed again by another deep-water blowout in the coming months because they have yet to incorporate many of the lessons learned during the BP disaster, experts inside and outside the business tell The Associated Press.

For one thing, it could be another year before a bigger, better cap-and-siphon containment system is developed to choke off leaks many thousands of feet below the surface. Also, existing skimmers still don't have the capacity to quickly suck up millions of gallons of oil flowing at once.

In interviews with the AP, environmental experts, industry veterans and government officials also said the industry needs better technology and more thorough testing and analysis to prevent blowouts from happening in the first place.

And despite an overhaul of the federal agency that regulates the industry, there are lingering doubts about whether the government can effectively police Big Oil at the same time it relies on the industry for revenue.

"It's going to take five years before all those lessons are fleshed out and can be implemented," warned Louisiana State University environmental sciences professor Ed Overton.

The Obama administration's moratorium on deep-water drilling in the Gulf of Mexico is set to expire Nov. 30 and could be lifted even sooner amid pressure from the industry and its allies.

BP signaled last week that it realizes there is still a lot of work to do, firing a top official responsible for deep-water wells. It also welcomed a new CEO on Friday, the first American ever to lead the British company.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,751.27	1,137.03	2,344.52
-78.41	-9.21	-26.23
-0.72%	-0.80%	-1.11%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0440	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7590	Philippine Peso	43.8650
British Pound	0.6325	Indian Rupee	44.7350	Singapore Dollar	1.3176
Canadian Dollar	1.0250	Indonesian Rupiah	8,947.0	South Korean Won	1,131.0
Chinese Yuan	6.6945	Japanese Yen	83.5450	Swiss Franc	0.9733
Euro	0.7328	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1105	Taiwan Dollar	31.1345
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3535	Thailand Baht	30.2300

Nation

New high court era: Kagan makes 3 women on bench

AP

This artist rendering shows the newest Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan, right, during a hearing at the court in Washington, Monday, Oct. 4, 2010. Seated, from left are, Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Stephen Breyer, Clarence Thomas, Antonin Scalia, Chief Justices John Roberts, Justice Anthony Kennedy, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Samuel Alito and Kagan.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court began a new era Monday with three women serving together for the first time, Elena Kagan taking her place at the end of the bench and quickly joining in the give-and-take.

In a scene that will repeat itself over the next few months, Kagan left the courtroom while the other justices remained to hear a case in which she will take no part. She has taken herself out of 24 pending cases, including the second of the two argued Monday, because of her work as the Obama administration's solicitor general prior to joining the court in August.

Opening its new term on the traditional first Monday in October, the court turned down hundreds of appeals, including one from the relatives of victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. They are seeking a proper burial for material taken from the World Trade Center site because it could contain the ashes of victims.

The justices also refused to hear several criminal appeals, including one by John and Timothy Rigas, founders of former telecommunications giant Adelphia Communications. They wanted the court to overturn their fraud convictions in connection with Adelphia's collapse in 2002.

The court also rejected an appeal by reputed Ku Klux Klansman James Ford Seale of his conviction for killing two black men in rural Mississippi in 1964 and another appeal by Georgia death row inmate Jamie Ryan Weis, who said he had no lawyer for two years.

At the court, moments after Marshal Pamela Talkin banged her gavel and commanded the audience's attention, Chief Justice John Roberts announced the start of the new term with little fanfare.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor, beginning her second year on the court, sat at the opposite end of the bench from Kagan, while Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who joined in 1993, sat midway between Kagan and Roberts, who occupies the center chair.

On the docket

A sampling of some of the high-profile cases the U.S. Supreme Court will consider during this session:

Snyder v. Phelps

First amendment rights

• Can the family of a soldier killed in Iraq sue for emotional harm inflicted by protesters at his funeral? Does freedom of speech override freedom of religion and assembly?

Chamber of Commerce v. Whiting

Pre-emption, or does federal law override state law

• Do federal immigration laws displace an Arizona law, which places tough penalties on businesses that hire illegal workers?

Bruesewitz V. Wyeth

Pre-emption

• Can the family of a child allegedly injured by a vaccine sue the manufacturer, despite the fact that the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act protects vaccine makers?

Ariz. Christian School Tuition Org. v. Winn

Separation of church, state

• Tests the validity of an Arizona's tax credits for donations to private school scholarships

Schwarzenegger v. Entertainment Merchants Assoc.

First amendment rights

• Does freedom of speech protection override a California law prohibiting sale of violent video games to minors?

Williamson v. Madza

Pre-emption

• Can the family of a person killed while riding in a seat with a lap-only seat belt sue the automaker, asserting all seats should have shoulder-lap belts, even though the vehicle met federal standards?

Skinner v. Switzer

Death penalty, due process

• Can a death row inmate seeking more thorough DNA testing of evidence sue the state on the grounds that his rights to due process were violated?

Connick V. Thompson

Wrongful conviction

• Can a man wrongfully convicted of murder sue the district attorney's office after prosecutors failed to reveal evidence that may have cleared him?

Source: Cornell University School of Law, CNN, New York Times
Graphic: Pat Carr

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Police seek possible young victims of alleged pimp

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The case of an alleged pimp suspected of abducting two teenage girls and keeping them captive while forcing them into prostitution could include dozens of other victims, authorities said Monday.

Police urged other possible victims of suspect Leroy Bragg to come forward.

Bragg, 34, was arrested Sept. 28 and charged with trafficking a minor, solicitation and other crimes in the alleged abduction of a 13-year-old girl.

He also is suspected of kidnapping a 14-year-old girl, though charges have not been filed in that case.

"We believe that Mr. Bragg had encounters with many of our young women in Los Angeles," police Capt. Ann Young said. "This is such a hideous crime. These young women ... are babies, basically."

Bragg has pleaded not guilty and remained jailed on $1.3 million bail. He had not yet been assigned a public defender. With previous burglary convictions, he could be sentenced to life under the three strikes law if convicted of the latest charges.

Police found the two girls while checking hotels southwest of downtown Los Angeles to see if managers had been properly documenting guests to make sure no one was renting rooms by the hour for use by prostitutes.

The girls told officers Bragg had kidnapped them, Young said.

"They are not street-wise," she said. "They may think they are when they leave home, but when they run into someone like Mr. Bragg, it changes their whole paradigm."

Casino owners, senators charged in Ala bingo probe

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—After the governor began raiding the state's electronic bingo halls, casino owners sent lobbyists to the Capitol with orders to make their Vegas-style parlors legal. Part of the plan, federal authorities said Monday, was to offer lawmakers millions of dollars in bribes.

The Justice Department unveiled an indictment accusing the owners of two of Alabama's largest casinos, four state senators and several lobbyists of a scheme to buy and sell votes in the Legislature. One defendant has pleaded guilty to offering a senator $2 million to vote for a bill to keep the bingo machines operating.

Since Republican Gov. Bob Riley began his raids nearly two years ago, the issue has set off angry statehouse rallies and complaints by local officials that casino closures cost poor counties much-needed jobs. Against this backdrop and with the pro-gambling bill on the verge of passage, the Justice Department announced last spring that it was looking into corruption at the statehouse.

On Monday, federal agents spread out across the state to arrest 11 people on federal charges of conspiracy, bribery and honest services fraud.

The head of the Justice Department's criminal division, Lanny Breuer, said the corrupt scheming was "astonishing in scope ... a full-scale campaign to bribe legislators and others."

Electronic bingo games, which have flashing lights and sound effects similar to slot machines, were a rapidly growing business in Alabama until Riley formed his task force to shut them down.

ACROSS THE NATION

Fla. man denies cocaine found in buttocks is his

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP)—When sheriff's deputies allegedly discovered a bags of marijuana and cocaine between a man's buttocks, they said he gave a quick explanation. Manatee County deputies said Raymond Stanley Roberts told them "The white stuff is not mine, but the weed is." Deputies stopped the 25-year-old Wednesday in Bradenton for speeding. Officers said they smelled marijuana and searched him. That's when they allegedly found a bag of marijuana between Roberts' buttocks. Officers then discovered another bag in there; the report said it contained 27 pieces of rock cocaine. The Bradenton Herald reported Roberts was arrested for drug possession and has bonded out of jail. The person who answered Friday at a phone number listed for Roberts said it wasn't his.

No verdict yet in Connecticut home invasion trial

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—A jury on Monday completed its first day of deliberations without reaching a verdict in the trial of a man charged with killing a woman and her two daughters in a 2007 home invasion. The jury in New Haven Superior Court met for about two hours after receiving instructions from the judge. The panel will resume deliberations Tuesday. The jury foreman told the judge that a verdict was not imminent. Steven Hayes faces 17 charges including capital felony, murder, arson and sexual assault in connection with the deaths of Jennifer Hawke-Petit and her daughters, 11-year-old Michaela and 17-year-old Hayley, at their Cheshire home. Hawke-Petit's husband, Dr. William Petit, was beaten but survived.

2 arrested in anti-gay beating at famed NY gay bar

NEW YORK (AP)—A patron at the Stonewall Inn, a powerful symbol of the gay rights movement since protests over a 1969 police raid there, was tackled to the floor and beaten in an anti-gay bias attack over the weekend, authorities said Monday. Two men were arrested in the early Sunday beating, which came little more than a day after a group of male friends bidding an affectionate good night to each other were attacked in another anti-gay assault elsewhere in Manhattan, prosecutors said. The attacks came amid heightened attention to anti-gay bullying following a string of suicides attributed to it last month, including a New Jersey college student's Sept. 22 plunge off the George Washington Bridge after his sexual encounter with a man in his dorm room was secretly streamed online.

Asia

Pakistan, US tensions spike after border closure

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Hundreds of U.S. and NATO trucks carrying fuel and other supplies for troops in Afghanistan lie idle. Dramatic images of Taliban attacks on these convoys are splashed across front pages in this anti-American country with a U.S.-allied government.

Pakistan's shutting of a key supply line for coalition troops in Afghanistan and the apparent ease with which militants are attacking the stranded convoys are shaking an already uncomfortable relationship between Washington and Islamabad.

■ ■ ■

BERLIN (AP)—An American missile strike killed five German militants Monday in the rugged Pakistan border area where a cell of Germans and Britons at the heart of the U.S. terror alert for Europe—a plot U.S. officials link to al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden—were believed in hiding.

The attack, part of a recent spike in American drone strikes on Pakistan, came as Germany said it has "concrete evidence" that at least 70 Germans have undergone paramilitary training in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and about a third have returned to Germany.

Authorities across Europe have heightened security at airports and other travel hubs as well as at main tourist attractions following the U.S. warning of an al-Qaida-linked terror plot targeting London, Paris, Berlin and other European capitals.

■ ■ ■

The tension comes just as Washington is stepping up its shadow war on militants harbored in Pakistan's border regions. CIA missile attacks, which have killed dozens of insurgents including some high-ranking al-Qaida operatives, are running at record levels—a sign of America's impatience with Pakistan's inaction in some parts of the frontier.

Although they are allies in the war against al-Qaida, the recent events are a reminder that the two countries' long-term strategic interests are not always in sync. As next year's date for the start of the U.S. drawdown from Afghanistan approaches, that gulf is only getting wider.

The U.S. seeks an Afghanistan free of Taliban fighters and wants Pakistan to help by attacking them on its side of the border. Pakistan is hedging that when the Americans go home, the Taliban will still be a major power—and one amenable to its anti-Indian agenda—so wants to keep them as friends.

The U.S. has pressured Pakistan to strike not only its enemy, the Pakistani Taliban, but also Haqqani network militants who attack the U.S. on the Afghan side of the border

The Pakistani government provides vital intelligence tips that help the CIA drone strikes. But such cooperation, to the extent that it becomes known in Pakistan, puts the government at risk of looking impotent in the eyes of its own people: A foreign power that many believe is an enemy of Islam is firing missiles and rockets on their territory.

US: China, ASEAN should strengthen Spratlys pact

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—China and the Southeast Asian nations disputing ownership of the Spratlys islands need to turn their 2002 accord into a legally binding code to prevent clashes and keep the vast region open to commerce, the U.S. ambassador said Monday.

China and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations signed a nonbinding edict eight years ago that called for a peaceful resolution of competing claims to ownership of the Spratlys in the South China Sea and a freeze on any steps that could spark fighting.

The United States is concerned that the dispute could hurt access to one of the world's busiest commercial sea lanes. President Barack Obama and ASEAN leaders recently reiterated their support for a peaceful resolution of the disputes, which some fear could spark Asia's next conflict.

"They should develop a code of conduct," U.S. Ambassador Harry Thomas Jr. told foreign correspondents in a news forum. "This was agreed to in 2002 and it should be expanded."

Asked if a new Spratlys accord should be legally binding, Thomas replied: "Of course."

He did not specify any feature Washington wanted to see in a new Spratlys accord but added that if asked, the United States would be willing to extend help to ASEAN during negotiations for a new agreement—something that Beijing would likely resist.

The Chinese Embassy reiterated Monday that the disputes "should be resolved only between China and claimant countries."

A new code of conduct in the disputed region should "ensure regional stability and freedom of navigation for international commerce," Thomas said.

Responding to another question, Thomas said it was not up to Washington whether claimants should be required to disarm or demobilize forces stationed in the contested region under a new pact.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Flash floods in eastern Indonesia kill at least 26

WONDAMA, Indonesia (AP)—Days of torrential rain triggered landslides and flash floods in eastern Indonesia, killing at least 26 people and destroying hundreds of homes, officials and witnesses said Tuesday. Residents in Wasior, a village in a hilly corner of West Papua province, combed the ud in search of missing relatives with their bare hands.

"I heard a roar and suddenly the river near my home broke its banks," said Ira Wanoni, describing the scariest deluge, which occurred early Monday. "Water mixed with rocks, mud and logs gushed out. ... Many people didn't have time to save themselves." Decky Amnir, head of the local Disaster Management Agency, told reporters in Wondama district that at least 26 people were killed and more than 60 were sent to nearby hospitals with injuries.

Chinese, Japanese leaders meet in Europe

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan on the sidelines of a meeting in Europe in the highest-level contact between the countries since a bitter diplomatic feud broke out a month ago over disputed islands, both countries confirmed Tuesday. Wen and Kan met briefly Monday in Brussels where both were attending the Asia-Europe Meeting and agreed to improve bilateral ties and to hold senior-level talks. Relations between the Asian neighbors—the world's second- and third-biggest economies—have been strained since a Chinese fishing boat collided with Japan Coast Guard vessels in early September near the islands in the East China Sea, which are claimed by both countries as well as Taiwan.

World

Nobel Prize awarded for test tube baby research

NEW YORK (AP)—The Nobel Prize in medicine went to a man whose work led to the first test tube baby, an achievement that helped bring 4 million infants into the world and raised challenging new questions about human reproduction.

AP

In this July 12, 2008 photo British physiologist Robert Edwards, left, attends the 30th anniversary of the world's first "test tube" fertilization baby Louise Joy Brown, right, holding her son Cameron. At centre left is her mother, Lesley Brown, at the Bourn Hall, in Bourn, England.

Robert Edwards of Britain, now an 85-year-old professor emeritus at the University of Cambridge, lived to see the far-reaching ramifications of his hugely controversial early research.

"Today, Robert Edwards' vision is a reality and brings joy to infertile people all over the world," the Nobel Committee said in Stockholm. It began with the birth on July 25, 1978, of the first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, to a couple who had been trying to conceive for nine years.

With in vitro fertilization, or IVF, an egg is removed from a woman, mixed with sperm in a laboratory, allowed to divide for four or five days, then implanted in the womb to grow into a baby. Today the odds of a couple having a baby after a single cycle of IVF treatment are about 1 in 5, roughly the same odds as a fertile couple trying to have children naturally.

Edwards and research partner Patrick Steptoe, who died in 1988, faced opposition to their IVF experiments. Some religious leaders called it morally wrong. Some government officials thought it more important to limit fertility than treat infertility, and some scientists were worried about the safety of embryos.

"In retrospect, it is amazing that Edwards not only was able to respond to the continued criticism of IVF, but that he also remained so persistent and unperturbed in fulfilling his scientific vision," the Nobel Committee said.

Chile president sees miners rescued before Oct. 15

SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP)—Chile's president said Monday that his government is "very close" to pulling 33 trapped miners to safety and he hopes to be there in person to see the rescue before leaving on a trip to Europe.

It was Sebastian Pinera who told the miners after they were found alive Aug. 22 that they would be saved by Christmas, and his government has assembled a team of hundreds to support them while three simultaneous drilling operations pound escape shafts through a half-mile of rock.

The drilling has gone well enough to move up the date since then, but rescue leaders have been cautious: Only last week, they estimated a late-October pullout.

Now the president has changed the expected date again, to before his Oct. 15-22 trip.

"We are very close to rescuing them, and I hope to be able to rescue them before leaving for Europe," he told a group of Chilean radio broadcasters Monday. "We are trying to adjust the two schedules."

"For me it is very important to share this moment—not only with the 33 miners, but with their families and all Chileans," Pinera added.

The miners also are getting ready for their big day.

WORLD BRIEFS

US working to accept exiled Cuban prisoners

HAVANA (AP)—Washington is working on a plan to bring the vast majority of exiled Cuban political prisoners from Spain to the United States and has already processed the first case, a senior State Department official told The Associated Press on Monday. Nearly all of some 39 former prisoners who are already in Spain, along with more than 100 family members, are likely to accept the offer, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the program publicly. "The majority of those prisoners and family have expressed an interest in the program," said the official. State Department spokesman Charles Luoma-Overstreet confirmed the broad outline of the anonymous official's account.

Chavez: State will lower prices of farm supplies

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez promised on Monday to bring down prices of seeds and fertilizer as his government takes over a leading farm-supply business. Chavez accused Agroislena CA of speculating with prices of goods such as seeds. "Enough already. I gave them a chance," the president said during an event in rural Portuguesa state. Chavez announced Sunday that the government was taking over Agroislena, which was founded in Venezuela more than five decades ago by Spanish immigrants from the Canary Islands and has grown into a market leader with branches across the country.

A first for Lima: elected female mayor

LIMA, Peru (AP)—A moderate leftist who gained renown as a human rights advocate consolidated what remained a narrow lead Monday over her pro-business rival. Whoever wins, Lima will have its first elected female mayor ever. A victory by Susana Villaran would give the left control of Peru's coastal capital—with 7 million people home to one in three of the Andean nation's inhabitants—for the first time since 1983. Villaran, a 61-year-old former rights ombudsman and ex-minister of social development and women's affairs, was leading Lourdes Flores 38.8 percent to 37.2 percent with 65 percent of the vote counted from Sunday's balloting.

Focus

In this photo of Friday Sept. 24, 2010, An injured man lies in an ambulance as he is taken to a hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia. AP

Somali ambulance workers risk death in city of war

By MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—A lull during fierce fighting gave Hassan Mohamud Mohamed time to hire a boy to wash the blood from his vehicle.

The break didn't last long. Mohamed is an ambulance driver in a city filled with war, and as the boy scrubbed the hatchback of the green-and-yellow checkered minivan, a call for help came in.

"Stop!" Mohamed yelled at the boy, who hadn't quite finished cleaning. Mohamed jumped in the driver's seat. "I'll be back."

Ambulance drivers risk their lives to try to save people hit by the mortar fire, artillery shells and random gunfire that have been ricocheting around this crumbling seaside city for almost 20 years. In 2009, two drivers were killed—one when a mortar round landed on an ambulance and a second when another ambulance was hit by tank fire.

The city lurches between quiet periods, when shoppers fill markets, to heavy warfare where no place is entirely safe. Since Saturday, 23 people have been killed and almost 90 wounded, Mohamed's ambulance service said.

Mogadishu's Lifeline Africa Ambulance Service has seven vehicles and 11 staffers who are each paid $100 a month. The ambulances are austere, carrying only stretchers, bandages and blood-clotting medicine. The staff is made up of drivers and their assistants, none with any formal medical training. On a recent Saturday—not a particularly busy day by Mogadishu standards—an Associated Press writer and photographer accompanied Mohamed on his run.

In this Sept. 24, 2010 photo, people help an injured victim into an ambulance vehicle to take him to a hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia for treatment. AP

As the ambulance approached a government checkpoint, the lone soldier on guard pointed the barrel of his gun at the vehicle.

"Is this a real ambulance or the suicide bombers' one?" the alert and suspicious soldier asked Mohamed. For nearly 10 minutes, he prevented Mohamed from moving before deciding it was a real ambulance.

Twenty minutes later, Mohamed pulled up to a woman screaming outside a five-room bungalow made of cheap bricks.

"My son is dead!" she cried out as she held her hands on her head. She berated Mohamed, saying he arrived too late.

A mortar shell had landed on the house and the woman's 10-year-old son was killed. No one else was hurt, another woman standing on the road said. Mohamed drove away.

Sometimes drivers like Mohamed head into scenes of sheer chaos and panic. They try to pick up only the wounded who can be saved, but crowds of relatives and neighbors often shove dead bodies into the ambulance alongside the living. Sometimes six people are crammed into a space meant for only one or two.

"People are in hysterical situations," ambulance driver Mohamed Hussein said. "So everyone wants to save his loved one before others. Sometimes it is hard to distinguish the dead from the wounded."

The service began two years ago and is funded by Nation Link—a Somali telecommunications company—as well as donations from local and expatriate Somalis. Before then, many of Mogadishu's war victims died where they fell or while being carried to the hospital, often bleeding to death.

The difficulty of the job has been compounded by rumors that insurgents planned to use ambulances to attack government and African Union bases. In addition, a militant group donated two ambulances, a gift that raised government suspicions.

"The distrust of our service in the government-controlled part of the capital is high," said Ali Muse, director of the ambulance service. When ambulance drivers are stopped at checkpoints, "the delay makes us lose people," Muse said.

A government official did not return calls for comment, but a spokesman for the African Union troops admitted the AU force is sometimes suspicious of the ambulances. "They (the militants) can use anything, including ambulances, donkeys, wheelbarrows, trucks and fuel tankers, to carry out their attacks," said Maj. Barigye Bahoku, the AU spokesman.

Not long after Mohamed drove away from the woman who criticized him for being late, another emergency call came in to his ambulance. He was to drive to the Bakara market, in a neighborhood controlled by al-Shabab, a group that pledges fealty to al-Qaida and controls all but a few blocks of Mogadishu. It wants to impose harsh Islamic rule in Somalia, which hasn't had a fully functioning government since 1991.

The al-Shabab-controlled district is too dangerous for journalists, so Mohamed dropped off the AP reporter and photographer, who waited under a concrete wall while shelling boomed in the background.

A half-hour later, Mohamed was back, having been delayed again by government and militant checkpoints.

In the back of the ambulance lay a woman with blood pouring out of her clothes. She groaned in pain. A teenage boy who was with her said she was caught in the crossfire at the market while buying food for her children.

During heavy fighting, Muse and his team sometimes work 24 hours or more, to the point of exhaustion. He wishes for more training for his staff and better facilities and equipment.

"But believe me, we still like the feeling of being able to help people when they need us," Muse said.

When night falls, saving lives becomes almost impossible. A shoot-to-kill mentality takes over after dusk, with government troops and militants both opening fire on sight.

Driver Abdullahi Ahmed said he has a good job "but it also traumatizes me."

"We wash the blood off our hands and get back in the ambulance. Siren screaming, lights flashing, we huddle on the floor of the ambulance, we pack it with people with different injuries, some of them very critical," he said.

Violence between al-Shabab militants and pro-government forces spiked in September. Elmen, a human rights organization, says 185 people were killed last month. More would have died if not for the ambulance service.

"This service has helped a lot and saved many lives," said Mohamed Yusuf, the director-general of Medina Hospital, one of three in Mogadishu. "I remember that a handcart used to be the only way to take the wounded to the hospital. Some people were using stretchers to rush the wounded to the hospital and many died on their way because of blood loss."

EDITOR'S NOTE: *An Associated Press writer and photographer spent a recent day riding in one of Mogadishu's few ambulances to experience Somalia's war through the eyes of a first responder.*

Campus Life

Colleges use car-sharing to cut down congestion

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—On a campus where students outnumber parking spaces nearly three to one, Boise State University has finally convinced 23-year-old Wayel Alwayel he no longer needs the car he brought to campus with him as a freshman.

The new hybrid car parked near the student union building this fall, available for $8 an hour, sealed the deal. Behind the wheel of the rental, Alwayel realized just how tired he was of paying for his own gas, paying for his own insurance.

"Everybody was like, 'How did you get this car?" said Alwayel, a senior who plans to sell his nine-year-old Mitsubishi sedan and rent one of the four Zipcars on campus if he needs to go to the mall or run an errand.

"It's cheaper," he said. "You don't have to pay the gas, you don't have to have insurance, which is really cool."

Colleges hoping to steer students and faculty away from bringing their vehicles to campus to help relieve parking congestion and promote environmentally friendly transportation are increasingly turning to the concept of car sharing.

Boise State is among more than 30 universities and colleges that have introduced Zipcars to students this fall.

The University of Colorado at Boulder works with a local nonprofit, eGO CarShare, to offer a car sharing service to students and faculty, according to its Web site. West Virginia University launched an hourly car rental program last year and has since teamed up with Zipcar Inc. to expand the service.

For a generation of college students who grew up downloading music song by song instead of buying entire CDs, the whole borrowing-instead-of-buying concept hasn't exactly been a hard sell.

Throw in the recession, and parents are on board too.

"I think one of the key drivers is Zipcar really helps to save people money, and that's really important to college students, as well as their parents," said Greg Winter, a spokesman for the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company.

There's also the bling factor, if only for a few hours.

When Alwayel, the Boise State student, and his wife, 20-year-old Fatemah, needed a ride to the Boise Islamic Center for a Ramadan gathering, they left their old car at home and went online to reserve the dark blue Prius parked on campus.

"It's a brand new car, and mine is old," Alwayel said.

While major metropolitan cities have long offered car sharing services, the idea is relatively new to more rural states like Idaho, said Casey Jones, director of transportation and parking at Boise State. The school's new car sharing service is Idaho's first, said Jones, who also sits on the International Parking Institute's board of directors.

"That creates some challenges for us, students have much less exposure to the concept," Jones said.

The idea of car sharing was spawned in Switzerland in 1987, when Mobility Car Sharing put its first car on the road in the traffic-congested city of Lucerne. The company now has 2,200 cars at 1,000 locations, according to its Web site.

The Swiss company's success was duplicated in big cities in Austria, France, Sweden and Germany, and the idea spread overseas to Canada in 1995. The first American car-sharing company opened in 1998 in Portland, Ore., where Jones was overseeing the city's off-street parking system at the time.

He was hired at Boise State earlier this year.

From his office on the first floor of a parking garage on the south end of campus, Jones is within earshot of the clamoring of heavy machinery as construction crews work on new buildings, which further reduce available space for surface parking lots.

The campus has nearly 20,000 students, about 2,000 faculty and staff, and just 7,000 parking spaces.

"It's pretty easy, using quick math, to know that we don't have a parking space for everyone," Jones said. "We're really moving forward on alternatives to driving alone, more sustainable choices."

The university developed a Web site that allows students to track the free campus shuttle from their computer or cell phone. To encourage more people to bike, the school built special gated areas that can only be accessed by students and faculty who sign up and pay for the security service.

The car sharing service primarily targets students who live on campus, but Jones hopes the idea will spread.

"There's a secondary group and that is people like me," he said. "I ride my bike to work, but there are going to be occasions where I need to go to the dentist or I need to run an errand and I need a car for that. Car sharing is a perfect solution for that kind of thing."

Court won't hear appeal of religious song ban

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court won't reconsider whether a New Jersey school district can constitutionally ban celebratory religious music.

The high court on Monday refused to hear an appeal from Michael Stratechuk. He sued in 2004, saying the South Orange-Maplewood school district's ban violated the First Amendment's freedom of worship provision.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia upheld the ban, however. The judges said public school administrations can determine which songs are appropriate according to constitutional guidelines to create a secular "inclusive environment."

Stratechuk's children attended Columbia High School and Maplewood Middle School.

The case is Stratechuk v. Board of Education, 09-1184.

KAGMAN HS JROTC CONDUCTS BBQ BEACH CLEANUP CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last Oct. 2, the Ayuyu Battalion JROTC Kagman High School conducted a community service barbeque cleanup at Micro Beach. KagHS had 35 JROTC dedicated cadets who cleaned up their community beach. They started at Hyatt Regency Saipan and ended up at the boat marina. After the cleanup, the cadets were treated to a delicious barbecue lunch. The goal of the cleanup was to be a better citizen by learning how to give back to their community.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

SSHS progress report out

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School, the midterm I progress report is scheduled to be picked up on Thursday, Oct. 7, 2010 from 3pm to 6pm. Teachers will be available in their classrooms for parents/guardian visit. All students will be released at 1pm. ***(PR)***

Oleai Elementary School PTSA meeting on Oct. 12

Oleai Elementary School's Parents, Teachers, and Students Association will have a meeting on Oct. 12, beginning 6:15pm at the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. ***(PR)***

Kagman High School report cards out Thursday

The first quarter progress report cards of students at Kagman High School will be out this Thursday, Oct. 7, from 4:30pm to 6pm. Students will be dismissed at 12pm.

For questions or more information, call 237-3840 or email: kagmanhs@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Computer Literary Nights set

Kagman High School will hold its Computer Literacy Nights at the school's cafeteria from 5pm to 6pm. Laptop distributions are also set on these dates:

- 12th graders-Seniors Oct. 4
- 11th graders-Juniors Oct. 5
- 10th graders-sophomores Oct. 6
- 9th graders-freshmen Oct. 7

Computer literacy dates will have regular class, no half days for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, except for Thursday, Oct. 7, which is half day due to progress report.

For questions or more information, call 237-3840 or e-mail: kagmanhs@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Life & Style

Actor Tony Curtis buried after Vegas funeral

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Actor Tony Curtis was buried Monday with a melange of his favorite possessions—a Stetson hat, an Armani scarf, driving gloves, an iPhone and a copy of his favorite novel, "Anthony Adverse," a book that inspired his celebrity name and launched a robust film career that spanned decades and genres.

The 85-year-old Oscar-nominated actor who starred in such films as "The Defiant Ones" and "Some Like It Hot" died Wednesday at his home in Henderson, a Las Vegas suburb, after suffering cardiac arrest.

More than 400 celebrities, fans, friends and family members gathered to say goodbye at a public funeral Monday in Las Vegas.

A montage of Curtis' famous film roles opened the sometimes solemn, sometimes mirthful service attended by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, actor Jamie Lee Curtis, porn star Ron Jeremy and Vera Goulet, widow of Broadway singer Robert Goulet. The crowd laughed as an animated Curtis appeared in a scene from the television series "The Flintstones" and sparred with actor Kirk Douglas in "Spartacus."

Friends and fans lined up outside Palm Mortuary & Cemetery well before the funeral, with more than a dozen photographers and television journalists watching the scene. Inside, seven colorful paintings and three black-and-white drawings by Curtis stood on easels, while a photo of the young, dark-haired actor was projected on a screen. The coffin was draped with an American flag.

Jamie Lee Curtis, Curtis' daughter from his first marriage with "Psycho" actress Janet Leigh, teared up as she described a man who was, she said, "a little meshuga"—Yiddish for crazy—but always full of life.

"All of us got something from him. I, of course, got his desperate need for attention," she joked.

The father and daughter were estranged for a long period but eventually reconciled. Curtis took pride in his daughter's on-screen credits, which include "Perfect," "Halloween," "True Lies" and the new comedy "You Again."

Rabbi Mel Hecht called Schwarzenegger to the front of the room for an impromptu farewell. The Austria native recalled Curtis as a generous mentor who encouraged Schwarzenegger's budding Hollywood career when others told him his foreign accent and name were too much of a handicap.

Curtis, whose native Bronx accent initially earned him similar criticism, could sympathize.

"You are going to make it," Schwarzenegger recalled Curtis telling him. "Don't pay any attention to those guys. I heard the same thing when I came here."

Schwarzenegger said Curtis refused to feel old.

"I mean, who has the guts to take off their clothes at the age of 80?" Schwarzenegger said, recalling Curtis' naked photo shoot in Vanity Fair in 2005.

Curtis' sixth wife, Jill Curtis, eulogized her husband of 12 years. She recalled how he easily dismissed their 45-year age difference when friends asked if he was worried about keeping up with a younger wife.

"Well, if she dies, she dies," she said her husband would deadpan in reply.

She recalled his simple loves: Krispy Kreme doughnuts, Splenda, his dog and white clothes. She urged family and friends to dwell not on his death, but on his extraordinary life.

"He was, as one fan put it, a once-in-a-lifetime man," she said.

The funeral was followed by the burial and then a reception for more than 100 invited guests at the Luxor hotel-casino on the Las Vegas Strip.

Jill Curtis, who Curtis affectionately called Jillie, told The Associated Press her husband would have approved of the festive goodbye.

"Tony didn't like funerals," she said. "He didn't want to make it funeral-y, more like a celebration."

Known for his transformation from a pigeonholed pretty boy in the late 1940s and early '50s to a serious actor, Curtis reshaped himself over decades of work and made himself impossible to typecast. The metamorphosis was completed in 1957's "Sweet Smell of Success," in which he played a sleazy press agent manipulated by a ruthless newspaper columnist (Burt Lancaster).

In person, Curtis loved giving friends and fans extra touches that made their face-to-face moments more memorable, longtime friend and pallbearer Gene Kilroy told the AP.

AP

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis is helped to the casket of her father Tony Curtis during his funeral Monday, Oct. 4, 2010, in Las Vegas. Tony Curtis died last Wednesday of cardiac arrest at his home in Henderson, Nev.

"He had a certain way of making everybody feel like they were Spartacus," Kilroy said.

Kilroy, an executive at Luxor, said billionaire investor Kirk Kerkorian, actor Kirk Douglas and singer Phyllis McGuire were among seven honorary pallbearers.

Curtis was born Bernard Schwartz in 1925, the son of Hungarian Jews who emigrated to the United States after World War I. His father, Manny Schwartz, yearned to be an actor, but work was hard to find with his heavy accent. He instead became a tailor, relocating the family repeatedly as he sought work.

"I was always the new kid on the block, so I got beat up by the other kids," Curtis recalled in 1959. "I had to figure a way to avoid getting my nose broken. So I became the crazy new kid on the block."

Curtis suffered tragedy at age 12 when his younger brother was killed in a traffic accident. Finding refuge in movies, he would ditch school to catch matinees starring Errol Flynn, Clark Gable, Gary Cooper and other screen idols.

After serving on a submarine during World War II, he enrolled in drama school on the G.I. Bill and was doing theater work when an agent lined up an audition with Universal, where he signed a seven-year contract starting at $100 a week at age 23.

The studio gave him the name Anthony Curtis, taken from his favorite novel and the Anglicized name of a favorite uncle. He later shortened it to Tony Curtis.

As his big-screen star faded in the 1960s, Curtis remolded himself as a character actor and turned to television with the 1970s action series "The Persuaders," costarring Roger Moore, and a recurring role on the crime drama "Vegas."

Curtis earned an Emmy nomination in 1980 as producer David O. Selznick in the "Gone With the Wind" chronicle "The Scarlett O'Hara War."

He also turned to writing with a 1977 novel, "Kid Cody and Julie Sparrow" and 1993's "Tony Curtis: The Autobiography."

Curtis remained vigorous following heart bypass surgery in 1994, although his health declined in recent years.

As the funeral ended Monday, a second film reel flashed before the crowd.

The montage finished with the words "The End" cast on an image of Curtis shaking his head, as if he were disputing his own epilogue.

British comedian, actor Norman Wisdom dies at 95

LONDON (AP)—British comedian and actor Norman Wisdom has died at the age of 95.

His family says he died peacefully late Monday at a nursing home on the Isle of Man. Wisdom had suffered from a series of strokes in the months before his death.

Wisdom specialized in family friendly slapstick comedy in the 1950s and 1960s. He was known for his roles as a clumsy underdog battling against adversity. He also acted in Broadway in the 1960s, when he was nominated for a Tony Award for his work in the comedy "Walking Happy."

His filmed included "Trouble In Store" in 1953 and "The Night They Raided Minsky's" in 1968, which he made in Hollywood. His subsequent career was largely based in television.

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In loving memory of

†ANUNCIACION SABLAN PALACIOS

"Uncha Neni"

We are inviting all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Year Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved Mother, Anuncia Sablan Palacios, unto her eternal life.
Daily mass of intention will be celebrated at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m. commencing on October 8, 2010 except on Sunday, October 10, 2010 mass of intention will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.
On the last day, October 16, 2010 Mass will be offered at 6:00 am.
Breakfast will be served immediately at Joeten Daidai Social Hall.
Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank you.

Roman S. Palacios. Susa P. Iglecias, George S. Palacios, Antonia P. Corral, Darlene P. Macaranas, David S. Palacios, Anuncia S. Palacios, Jesse S. Palacios

Wynton Marsalis in Cuba for historic jazz concerts

HAVANA (AP)—A country known for groundbreaking jazz is getting a visit from one of America's leading trumpeters, who spent the weekend jamming with Cuban legends ahead of a concert series that will put musicians from the two Cold War enemies on stage together.

The visit by Wynton Marsalis and his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra kicks off a season of unprecedented cultural exchanges - with the American Ballet Theater scheduled to perform in Havana next month in honor of Cuban ballet legend Alicia Alonso.

Several Cuban musicians have also traveled to the United States in recent months, taking advantage of a more relaxed visa policy under President Barack Obama.

Marsalis, seated next to Cuban jazz great Chucho Valdes and Buena Vista Social Club diva Omara Portuondo at a news conference on Monday, said it was a thrill to be in Havana for the concerts. While Marsalis has been in Cuba before, it was the first trip by New York's Lincoln Center jazz group.

U.S. musician Wynton Marsalis looks at a Cuban musician playing saxophone during a concert at the Cuba's Music Institute in Havana, Cuba, Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010. AP

"It's a great honor for us as musicians to come here to Havana because of the long tradition and the great musicians who have come from here," Marsalis said.

Marsalis, 48, spent the weekend playing with Cuban musicians at an impromptu jam session, and also recording music with Valdes and Portuondo. The concerts run from Tuesday through Saturday, and there will also be master classes for promising young Cuban musicians.

Marsalis said it would be a particular pleasure to share the stage with Valdes, whom he grew up listening to as a boy in a supremely musical New Orleans family.

"When I was 12 years old my father came to me in New Orleans ... with an album with Chucho on it, and he said 'Man, this is what cats are playing in Cuba,'" Marsalis said, adding that his father would "ooh" and "ahhh" as they listened to the album together. "When I had the opportunity to record with Omara and Chucho I started to get full of emotion, 'cause I thought of my father playing Chucho's music for me."

Marsalis wouldn't directly answer any political questions, preferring to stick to jazz topics. When asked whether his visit could bridge the half-century political divide between the United States and Cuba, he gave the example of two musicians trying to play in rhythm.

"All night they are arguing about where is the beat, saying, 'You are rushing. You are dragging. Pick it up. You are not listening.' They love each other but (the arguing) is constant," Marsalis said. "That's what our swing is about, about working it out, because the music is going on the whole time."

He added: "In our music, swing means come together and stay together, even if you don't want to."a

A jazz legend, Marsalis received his first trumpet as a Christmas present at age 6. He was a teenager in 1980 when he signed his first record deal with Columbia Records. In 1997, he became the first jazz musician to win a Pulitzer Prize for "Blood on the Fields," combining jazz and the spoken word in an oratorio on slavery and freedom.

The Marsalis family includes patriarch Ellis, a pianist and educator, and his four sons: trumpeter Wynton, saxophonist Branford, trombonist Delfeayo, and percussionist Jason.

Rollins at 80 still wows loyal jazz fans in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Tenor saxophonist Sonny Rollins—one of the last surviving legends of the golden era of jazz—has just turned 80. His hair is a burst of white, and he staggers a bit when he walks on stage.

But when he plays, he still sounds like a 20-year-old, and his Japanese fans can't get enough.

Rollins is back this week on an 80th birthday tour in this nation long known for its love of jazz.

It's also a place where Rollins feels at home. Since 1963, when he first visited Japan, Rollins has studied Buddhism, yoga and meditation, and frequents the temples and bamboo forests of the ancient capital of Kyoto.

"Maybe I was Japanese in my past life," he told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from his home in Germantown, New York, ahead of his trip.

Rollins, who turned 80 on Sept. 7, has visited Japan more than 20 times, almost always playing to sellout crowds.

Each time, he brings the unmistakable power of his legacy, which includes collaborations with some of the biggest names in jazz—Max Roach, John Coltrane, Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk.

The crowd at JCB Hall in Tokyo on Monday clapped adoringly at his solos and gave him a long standing ovation after his 1 1/2-hour performance. He has three other concerts in Japan through Saturday.

AP

In this Oct. 4, 2010 photo, jazz great Sonny Rollins plays his tune during his concert in Tokyo. Rollins is back this week on an 80th birthday tour in this nation long known for its love of jazz.

"He was gorgeous," said schoolteacher Shoko Tateishi, who has heard Rollins three times, as well as Chet Baker and Ron Carter. "You didn't sense his age a bit."

Throughout his trademark piano-less performance, with Bob Cranshaw on bass, Russell Malone on guitar, Kobie Watkins on drums and Sammy Figueroa on percussion, Rollins' sound was full and energetic—befitting his reputation as the "saxophone colossus."

Rollins believes Japanese people gravitate to his music because it is beyond the barriers of language or nationality.

"Jazz is a very universal music. There is no doubt about it," he said. "When you hear jazz, there is something in it that gives you the feeling of something bigger than this particular life that we live in. That's why jazz is such a great music."

Rollins, who still practices daily and insists his pursuit of perfection is far from over, shrugs off getting older, although he acknowledges he is physically weaker and can't eat as much ice cream as he used to.

He feels pretty much the same as that moment he fell in love with jazz—after hearing Fats Waller's piano as a child.

"And so being 80 is just a number," he said. "I know that the body is here for just a minute, but the soul is always here."

On stage, Rollins, wearing a bright red shirt, was tireless, swaying to the rhythms, playing ballads, standards and calypso-inspired compositions, wrapping up with his signature tune "St. Thomas."

Hajime Ban, a 69-year-old designer, was in tears after the performance.

"At this stage in his life, he is no longer human," he said. "I don't want to think this is the last time we're going to be able to hear him."

Rollins doesn't dwell on his past, although he is one of a handful left standing among the giants of jazz, who were so critical in defining the art form during the 1950s and 1960s.

"I am still able to play my horn. It is a blessing. It is a gift. I am not looking backward at all," he said. "Eighty is fine."

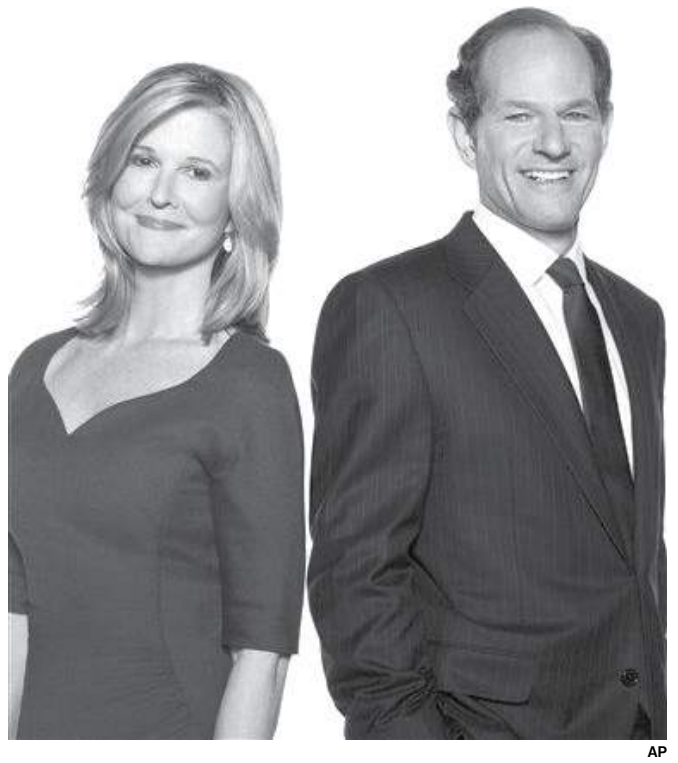
Parker, Spitzer aim for ideological center on TV

NEW YORK (AP)—Former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer promised a TV show with ideas in his prime-time CNN debut with partner Kathleen Parker, and they delivered lots of them.

The premiere of "Parker/Spitzer" featured former Spitzer prosecution target Henry Blodget, "The Social Network" writer Aaron Sorkin, conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart and White House consumer protection adviser Elizabeth Warren.

The ex-governor resigned in a prostitution scandal. He's teamed with a newspaper columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner for an evening program CNN is counting on to bring some sizzle to a prime-time lineup that plays third fiddle in the ratings to Fox News Channel and MSNBC.

After a jaunty jazz intro, the former Democratic officeholder called on Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner to quit. The conservative columnist said Sarah Palin (PAY'-lihn) should stop being a "tease" and come out and say she's not running for president in 2012.



AP

In this publicity image released by CNN, Kathleen Parker, left, and Eliot Spitzer, hosts of the CNN prime-time show "Parker Spitzer."

Prosecutor portrays Anna Nicole Smith as addict

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A prosecutor portrayed Anna Nicole Smith Monday as an out-of-control drug addict who pressured doctors into prescribing pain killers and sedatives.

Deputy District Attorney David Barkhurst was the first lawyer to deliver his closing argument to jurors after eight weeks of testimony. His initial emphasis was on addiction, a central dispute between the prosecution and defense.

Superior Court Judge Robert Perry has told jurors a person who seeks drugs primarily to control pain is not an addict.

But Barkhurst suggested Smith's complaints of pain were an excuse to get drugs.

"Anna Nicole Smith had an addiction problem," he said.

Howard K. Stern and Drs. Sandeep Kapoor and Khristine Eroshevich have pleaded not guilty to conspiring to provide excessive prescription drugs to the former Playboy model while knowing she was an addict.

They are not charged in her 2007 accidental overdose death in Florida.

Barkhurst focused his initial remarks on Kapoor, an internist whom the prosecutor accused of doing inadequate tests before giving Smith the heavy duty opiate Dilaudid that she requested.

"The issue in this case is whether the doctors were acting in good faith," Barkhurst said. "They were no longer treating her pain. They were feeding her addiction."

The argument appeared to cast Smith as a coconspirator, even though she has not been officially given that designation by prosecutors.

Barkhurst conceded Kapoor once treated Smith for painful cracked ribs. But the drugs were provided for too long, he said.

"She's seeking the medication she enjoys to make her feel good," the prosecutor said.

There was no testimony during the trial that Smith ever sought euphoria from prescription drugs. The defense maintains she suffered from chronic pain and a number of ailments that sent her to doctors in search of relief.

Barkhurst said Smith's drug-induced euphoria was evidenced in a video he played from the American Music Awards in which she slurred her words and became confused.

He anticipated defense arguments would focus on Smith's pain after giving birth to her daughter in the Bahamas, and her distress when her son Daniel died of a drug overdose.

"Life happens," Barkhurst said. "People give birth by C-section every day. People suffer losses."

Barkhurst also said Eroshevich and Kapoor "ignored all boundaries" of professional behavior by having social relationships with Smith. The prosecutor showed one picture of Eroshevich naked in a bathtub with Smith, and another of Kapoor kissing her neck.

"These doctors were not using their medical judgment. They abandoned their responsibility and abused their power to write prescriptions," he said.

Deputy District Attorney Renee Rose said her closing argument might last through the day on Tuesday.

"I think that's just too long," Judge Perry said, citing the likely toll on the jury. "When you start repeating and repeating over and over, it's cumulative and has no effect."

Three defense attorneys also were expected to offer closing arguments before the case goes to the jury.

Defense attorneys Steve Sadow for Stern, Brad Brunon for Eroshevich and Ellyn Garafalo for Kapoor were expected to say the defendants cared deeply for Smith and were trying to help her with legitimate medical concerns.

AP

In this Oct. 2, 2000 file photo, Anna Nicole Smith, right, smiles as she walks to the courthouse with her attorney Howard K. Stern in Houston.

Wyclef Jean named fellow at RI's Brown University

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—Rhode Island's Brown University says hip-hop singer Wyclef Jean (WY'-klef zhahn) has accepted an appointment as a visiting fellow in its Department of Africana Studies for the 2010-11 academic year.

Jean

The Ivy League school says the Haitian Grammy Award winner will engage in activities related to its Haiti Initiative, including lectures, faculty conversations and classes.

Brown says Jean made his first visit to campus Monday and attended two inaugural lecturers.

The 37-year-old singer says his time at Brown will be "a period of learning and reflection."

Jean announced a bid for Haiti's presidency in August but ended it last month. No official reasons were given for his exclusion although he's presumed not to have met constitutional requirements such as living in Haiti.

Jean grew up in New York and lives in New Jersey.

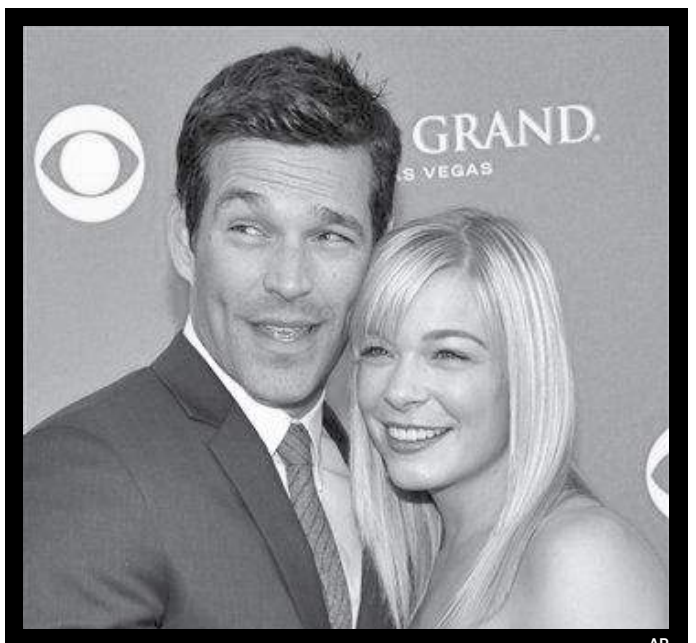
'Office' writer Steve Hely wins Thurber prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Steve Hely isn't funny only when he's writing for "The Office."

Hely's modestly titled novel, "How I Became a Famous Novelist," was awarded the 2010 Thurber Prize for American Humor on Monday night.

Hely, who has previously written for "30 Rock" and "The Late Show With David Letterman," received $5,000.

Previous winners of the Thurber award include Jon Stewart and David Sedaris. The prize, which was founded in 1997, is named for the humorist-cartoonist James Thurber.



AP

In this April 18, 2010 file photo, country singer LeAnn Rimes, right, and actor Eddie Cibrian arrive at the 45th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas.

Actor Eddie Cibrian, wife, finalize divorce in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court records show television actor Eddie Cibrian and his wife of eight years have finalized their divorce.

A Los Angeles judge signed off on the divorce as of Thursday. The terms remain confidential.

Cibrian filed for divorce citing irreconcilable differences in August 2009 and is currently dating actress-singer LeAnn Rimes.

The 37-year-old actor has appeared on series such as "CSI: Miami" and "Ugly Betty."

Woman wants her boyfriend to hang up his party line

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Ronnie," and I have a very active and "different" sex life. I'm happy I have found someone who is so compatible, but it has also presented a problem for me when we're out with friends.

Our bedroom activities occasionally include a third party—a female. I'm perfectly happy with this arrangement because I am the one who initiated it. However, I have a problem with Ronnie's recruiting practices. He seems to think that because I have one friend who has joined us, all of them are fair game. Most of my friends are not aware of our activities. They're mainstream, and it's embarrassing when he propositions them. I try to blame it on booze, but they get offended. I have lost one good friend over it.

I have tried repeatedly to explain to Ronnie that there's a time and a place for everything. He just doesn't get it. He says not to worry about what others think. I don't want to end what we have, but I need him to understand that our sex life is not open for discussion among our tight-knit group of friends. Any suggestions?

EMBARRASSED IN JERSEY

DEAR EMBARRASSED: Because you have explained to Ronnie that what he's doing is making you uncomfortable, that not all of your friends are into threesomes and it has already cost you one friend—then face it. He doesn't WANT to "get it." Or, this may be his way of letting you know that he wants to do some recruiting of his own.

Before any more of your private business is broadcast, you will have to decide if Ronnie's ability in the bedroom makes up for the fact that he's embarrassing in other important social situations. Only you can decide that one.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: You probably have heard things like this before, but I don't know where to turn.

I have been dating "Jeff" for five years and we have a lot of fun together. Last week Jeff proposed marriage and—I choked! Now I'm having doubts about everything, and he's getting impatient with me because I haven't given him an answer.

Things are not going the way I had hoped, Abby. Everything is falling apart. Does this happen often? How do I know if he's the right one?

PANICKED IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR PANICKED: It doesn't happen "often," but panicking at making a lifetime commitment certainly isn't unheard of. You need to relax, calm down, and realize that you have spent five enjoyable years with Jeff or the relationship would have ended. Then ask yourself how you would feel about a lifetime of similar experiences, and you'll have the answer you're looking for. I hope you'll be very happy together.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was friendly with a woman I'll call Paula. In the past, whenever I'd buy a lottery ticket I'd promise to buy her a house if I won.

Our friendship has become strained. In fact, we're no longer friends at all. It has been a year and a half since I've spoken to her.

Am I legally bound to buy Paula a house if I win? She's the kind of person who would take you to court and generally try to ruin your life. Could you please give me some advice and help me out of this jam?

WINNER-TO-BE IN STAUNTON, VA.

DEAR WINNER-TO-BE: Yes. A verbal agreement is only as good as the paper it is written on.

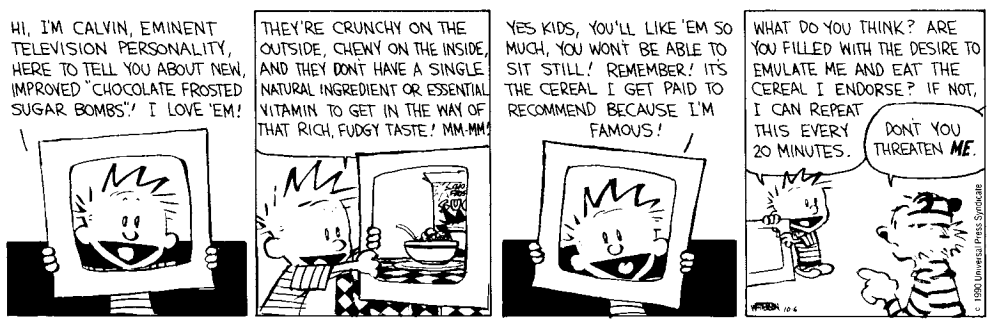
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

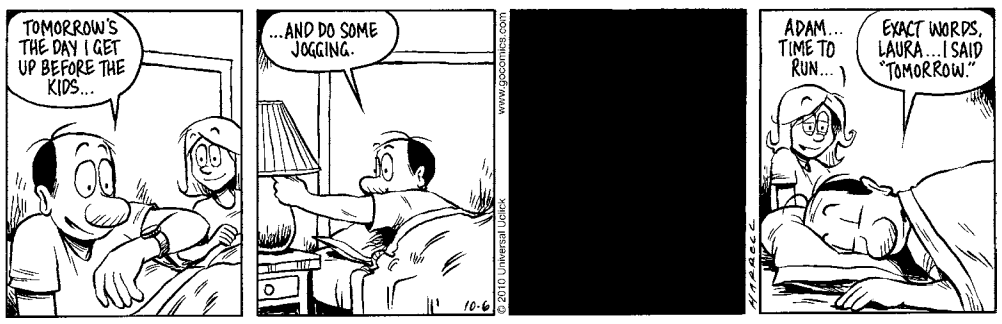

HI, I'M CALVIN, EMINENT TELEVISION PERSONALITY, HERE TO TELL YOU ABOUT NEW, IMPROVED "CHOCOLATE FROSTED SUGAR BOMBS"! I LOVE 'EM!
THEY'RE CRUNCHY ON THE OUTSIDE, CHEWY ON THE INSIDE, AND THEY DON'T HAVE A SINGLE NATURAL INGREDIENT OR ESSENTIAL VITAMIN TO GET IN THE WAY OF THAT RICH, FUDGY TASTE! MM-MM!
YES KIDS, YOU'LL LIKE 'EM SO MUCH, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SIT STILL! REMEMBER! IT'S THE CEREAL I GET PAID TO RECOMMEND BECAUSE I'M FAMOUS!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? ARE YOU FILLED WITH THE DESIRE TO EMULATE ME AND EAT THE CEREAL I ENDORSE? IF NOT, I CAN REPEAT THIS EVERY 20 MINUTES.
DON'T YOU THREATEN ME.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


TOMORROW'S THE DAY I GET UP BEFORE THE KIDS...
...AND DO SOME JOGGING.
10-6
© 2010 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com
ADAM... TIME TO RUN...
EXACT WORDS, LAURA... I SAID "TOMORROW."

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Destiny
5 Boar's mate
8 Flat-bottomed boat
12 Composer Novello
13 — Beta Kappa
14 Corduroy ridge
15 Sad
17 Largest of the seven
18 Titleholder
19 Dr. Seuss' elephant
21 Harmonization
24 Chartres chum
25 Send forth
28 Actor Estrada
30 Spinning meas.
33 Tavern
34 Nourishes
35 Raw rock
36 Kinsman, briefly
37 Hurler Hershiser
38 Entanglement
39 Promptly
41 Actress Moore
43 Rook
46 A Musketeer
50 Settled down
51 Negative aspect
54 Fashion
55 Festive
56 Singer Sheryl
57 Noble
58 Prior to
59 His and —

DOWN
1 Loyal pooch
2 Acknowledge
3 Village
4 Hemingway or Borgnine
5 Masseur's workplace
6 Sounds of surprise
7 Accompanying
8 Honey bunch?
9 Able to withstand anything
10 Hodgepodge
11 Withdraw from a habit
16 Weep
20 Erstwhile acorns
22 — -do-well
23 Words to live by
25 Recede
26 Scratch
27 Raymond Burr role
29 Between jobs
31 Expert
32 Encountered
34 Chicks and ducks and geese
38 Lowbrow stuff
40 Playful water critter
42 Chap
43 A summer place
44 Lotion additive
45 Advantage
47 Employ
48 Stench
49 Wields a needle
52 Rowing need
53 It's between ex and zee

Solution time: 21 mins.

O	A	R	S	■	Y	E	S	■	S	T	O	W
F	L	E	E	■	A	M	I	■	H	A	L	E
F	I	V	E	S	P	O	T	■	A	R	E	A
■	■	■	S	I	S	■	T	O	R	P	O	R
S	C	R	A	P	■	P	I	C	K	■	■	■
C	L	A	W	■	H	I	G	H	S	P	O	T
O	U	T	■	M	Y	T	H	S	■	E	R	E
W	E	A	K	S	P	O	T	■	G	A	Z	E
■	■	■	D	E	N	T	■	A	R	S	O	N
P	H	I	L	C	O	■	A	N	A	■	■	■
L	Y	R	A	■	S	O	F	T	S	P	O	T
U	P	O	N	■	I	B	A	■	P	O	P	E
G	O	N	G	■	S	I	R	■	S	I	T	E

Yesterday's answer 10-6

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				16				■	17			
18					■	■	19	20				
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24			■	■
25	26	27		■	28		29		■	30	31	32
33			■	34					■	35		
36			■	37				■	38			
■	■	39	40		■	41		42		■	■	■
43	44				45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50				■	51	52	53					
54					55			■	56			
57				■	58			■	59			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Hannah Bridges, 20; Amy Jo Johnson, 40; Elisabeth Shue, 47; Britt Ekland, 68

Happy Birthday: This is not a time to reflect on what you should have done but instead to learn from your past and move forward. Put your plans on the table and you will draw the people you need to make your dreams come true. Clever, astute strategy is the key to your success. Posture yourself for a leadership position. Your numbers are 5, 8, 14, 25, 31, 38, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't limit what you can do or let anyone else prohibit you from moving forward with your plans. A little aggression will be needed regarding a partnership but, when dealing with peers and colleagues, approach whomever you disagree with cautiously. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't let the changes going on around you create uncertainty or fear. If you become too focused on what might happen, you are apt to make mistakes. Concentrate on doing the best job possible and getting along with everyone. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Attend functions that can help you connect with people in your industry or who are working in an area you'd like to get into. Opportunities are available but you do have to go after what you want. Children or older relatives will play an important role. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't let questions unnerve you. You have to do whatever it takes to relieve personal stress. Taking refuge in familiar territory may comfort you but it won't solve the problem. Stop hiding. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't let someone else's uncertainty cause you to question what you are doing. You have the answers, so stick to your game plan. A problem at home may confuse you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Partners, finances, legalities and contracts must all be dealt with carefully. Unexpected changes are likely to surface and may leave you in a vulnerable position. Your practicality and good sense will help you make the right choice. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You'll be affected by changes over which you have no control. Take a practical position and don't allow anyone to push you in a direction you don't feel is in your best interest. An older, more experienced individual may be able to shed some light on your situation. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You'll be tempted to let your heart rule your head. You can be as passionate as you like as long as it doesn't lead to a financial loss or debt. Gambling and taking a risk are off-limits. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Set your sights on the things you can accomplish and ignore any temptation to follow what someone else is doing. Emotional upset due to unexpected changes will cause you to make a mistake. Rethink your strategy. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Originality will count when it comes to impressing others, so don't be afraid to be different. Getting closer to someone with whom you have a lot in common will help you move in the right direction personally and professionally. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Stick to your game plan and offer what you feel is fair. Handling legal or financial matters will bring good results. Contracts, agreements, negotiations and legal settlements can all be resolved as long as you stick to the truth. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Home, family, love, marriage, contracts and fixing up your home should all be part of your plans. The more at ease you feel about where you live and the less stress you have hanging over your head, the better. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are careful and thoughtful and make your decisions based on facts. You are unique and adaptable and use your attributes wisely.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3	2	4				
	7				1			
2		5				9		
7		6				3		
5			1			7		
	8				9	5		
		4	9	3	6	2	7	
						1	3	8
							4	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

6	9	5	4	1	3	7	2	8
8	3	2	7	5	6	9	1	4
1	4	7	9	8	2	3	6	5
4	1	8	5	6	7	2	3	9
2	5	6	3	9	1	8	4	7
3	7	9	2	4	8	6	5	1
9	2	3	1	7	4	5	8	6
5	8	1	6	2	9	4	7	3
7	6	4	8	3	5	1	9	2

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/05

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

LARRY KING'S RETIREMENT **Solution: 9 letters**

S	I	M	A	I	M	(S)	L	N	O	N	N	A	C	S
L	R	L	S	N	I	(H)	P	L	O	D	G	D	H	O
L	O	E	A	N	C	(O)	V	E	R	U	A	A	A	U
I	S	Y	P	N	R	(W)	D	A	E	L	W	N	N	T
H	U	S	L	A	O	O	A	S	R	N	A	N	C	H
Y	S	S	T	T	P	I	T	T	G	A	R	Y	E	W
L	P	E	T	R	H	S	T	A	C	V	D	I	E	I
R	E	T	Y	E	O	G	W	A	R	H	S	I	P	C
E	N	S	D	M	N	P	I	E	N	Y	V	E	O	K
V	D	D	O	A	E	T	S	N	N	R	T	R	F	T
E	E	R	B	F	H	O	S	T	E	S	E	I	R	C
B	R	O	A	D	C	A	S	T	I	N	G	T	A	E
Y	S	C	E	R	E	E	N	O	I	P	I	E	N	R
A	C	E	P	L	A	I	C	E	P	S	F	R	K	I
D	L	R	O	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N	D

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Yesterday's Answer: Generous

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10-049	Compliance Officer	1	$27,921.00 - $36,297.00	Two-year	Admin. Office, Saipan
10-050	Information Technology (IT) Specialist	2	$19,425.00 - $25,981.00	Two-year	IT, Saipan
10-051	Information Technology (IT) Analyst	2	$34,176.00 - $44,429.00	Two-year	IT, Saipan
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Special teams lead Pats past Dolphins

MIAMI (AP)—The New England Patriots had another big night, and this time the NFL's highest-scoring team totaled most of its points with Tom Brady and the rest of the offense cheering from the sideline.

Patrick Chung blocked two kicks and returned an interception for a touchdown, and New England scored twice on special teams to beat the hapless Miami Dolphins 41-14 on Monday night.

Brady threw for only 153 yards, and Randy Moss was held without a catch for the first time since 2006, but the Patriots still registered their biggest point total yet. They're averaging 33 points per game.

New England trailed 7-6 at halftime, but when Brandon Tate returned the second half kickoff 103 yards for a score, the deluge was on before a stunned crowd. In the fourth quarter, the stadium quickly emptied.

"Where's everyone going? 'The party' is just getting started at Sun Life Stadium," the Patriots posted on their Twitter feed.

"We had a tidal wave hit us," Dolphins coach Tony Sparano said. "It was a mess. Embarrassing. These fans deserve better than this."

New England (3-1) moved into a tie with the New York Jets for first place in the AFC East, while the Dolphins (2-2) dropped to third place with their second divisional loss at home in eight days.

Chung blocked a punt to set up a touchdown, then blocked a field goal that Kyle Arrington returned 35 yards for a score.

"We practiced everything that happened—all of those blocks, and people doing their job allowed me to make a play," Chung said.

He returned an interception 51 yards for New England's final score.

Another unexpected contribution came from linebacker Rob Ninkovich, who had the first two interceptions of his five-year career. Chung and Arrington scored their first career TDs, and Patriots reserve fullback Danny Woodhead scored on an 11-yard reception.

The Patriots totaled 17 points in a span of 2:16 bridging halftime to take command.

Miami's Chad Henne was 29 of 39 for 302 yards and two scores, but he was yanked with 6 1/2 minutes left after tying a career high with his third interception.

Henne blamed his first turnover on a forced pass, the second on inaccuracy and the last on a miscommunication.

"Overall it's my fault," he said. "I'll take that one as a quarterback. I'll put that on my shoulders."

The pass picked off by Chung was especially ugly.

"It shocked me," he said. "I was like, 'He threw it? Thanks.'"

Tyler Thigpen finished up and threw the Dolphins' fourth interception.

The Dolphins lost even though they netted 400 yards and had 23 first downs. Ninkovich's picks set up two field goals, and New England held Ronnie Brown to 27 yards rushing.

The Dolphins had a punt blocked for the second week in a row.

Tate took the second-half kickoff in the end zone, cut toward the right sideline and scored untouched, giving the Patriots their first lead. Miami went three and out, and Chung blocked Brandon Fields' punt.

"It's not the guy who blocks it, it's the other guys that hit the gaps and take the blockers and open it up for the guy that they missed," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "It was a nice job by the whole team. ... We've been close on a couple and haven't gotten them, so it was great to get them."

Two plays later, BenJarvus Green-Ellis scored on a 12-yard run.

When the Dolphins lined up for a 53-yard field goal attempt that would have cut the deficit to 10 points, Chung again broke through to block the kick, and Arrington recovered with nothing but the end zone in front of him.

"I was just fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time," Arrington said.

"Special teams decided this game," said Dolphins kick returner Nolan Carroll, who also plays on the coverage team. "It's a blow to our gut."

As a result, the Patriots didn't need Moss. He was targeted only once, when he stretched for a pass in the end zone, but the ball deflected off his hands and New England settled for a field goal.

"If they're taking one guy away, everyone else has to come out and play well," Patriots receiver Wes Welker said. "It's a team effort, and that's exactly what today was."

Brady was sacked three times but finished 19 of 24 with no interceptions.

Ricky Williams turned a swing pass from Henne into a 28-yard touchdown, helped by a downfield block by Brandon Marshall. Henne also hit Davone Bess for a 19-yard score.

AP

New England Patriots safety Pat Chung (25) and cornerback Devin McCourty (32) congratulate cornerback Kyle Arrington after Arrington returned a blocked field goal 35 yards for a touchdown during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins on Monday, Oct. 4, 2010, in Miami.

Roethlisberger, Cushing, Holmes return to teams

By BARRY WILNER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Ben Roethlisberger and Santonio Holmes have something else in common aside from their touchdown that won the 2009 Super Bowl. Both came off four-game NFL suspensions Monday.

Roethlisberger returned to the Pittsburgh Steelers, while Holmes is back with the New York Jets. They are among seven players whose bans ended, including last season's top defensive rookie, Brian Cushing of the Houston Texans.

"I couldn't wait to get here," Roethlisberger said on his first day back with the team he led to titles after the 2005 and 2008 seasons.

Cushing was one of three linebackers suspended for performance-enhancing drugs, along with Gerald McRath of the Tennessee Titans and Robert James of the Atlanta Falcons.

Wide receiver Holmes, traded by Pittsburgh to the Jets in the offseason, Bills tight end Shawn Nelson and Broncos running back LenDale White were sidelined for substance abuse. White is on injured reserve and out for the season.

Roethlisberger was accused of, but not charged with, sexually assaulting a Georgia college student following a night of drinking in a college bar March 5. Despite not being charged, he was suspended under the NFL's personal conduct policy.

He spent his Sundays watching the Steelers on TV and feeling like, well, a helpless fan.

"I have no fingernails left," he said. "It was hard, it really was, to watch them at home. I was on the edge of my chair, trying to keep busy. It was tough, but it was fun watching them win."

The Steelers have started 3-1 and are tied atop the AFC North with Baltimore, which won at Pittsburgh 17-14 on Sunday.

Also at 3-1 are the Texans without Cushing, the Jets minus Holmes, and the Falcons without James.

Cushing was not available for comment Monday, but will practice Wednesday and play on Sunday against the Giants, coach Gary Kubiak said. Cushing will go through an individual workout Tuesday.

Cushing was suspended in May for testing positive for HCG, a fertility drug that's on the NFL's banned substances list. HCG can be used to mask steroid use.

He started every game at outside linebacker last season, making 133 tackles.

"First off, I don't worry about him working," Kubiak said. "I know he's a worker and been putting himself through everything he can possibly put himself through without playing a game. You know, there is a level of sharpness, just from not playing, not taking all the snaps. Everybody on the team is about 250 snaps ahead of him right now in an NFL season. But he's proven that he can play missing practice; he did that last year."

Holmes, whose spectacular catch in the back of the end zone against Arizona won the Super Bowl for Pittsburgh in February 2009, was projected as the Jets' top deep threat when he was acquired. Coach Rex Ryan isn't worried if Holmes will be ready to contribute Monday night against Minnesota.

"Like I say, I don't think he's ready to play," Ryan said with a smile. "I don't think you can even consider defending him. Maybe that's the best way to do it. Then, let him light you up for 200 yards."

Nelson might become an injury exemption on the Buffalo roster after he revealed Monday that he underwent groin surgery four weeks ago.

"I'm excited to back with my brothers on the football field," he said, adding the down time was tormenting. "It's no fun being at home. I was able to be here and be in the meetings, and I could do everything but be at practice and go to the games. It's not fun being at home on Sunday watching those guys compete and I can't be there with them."

McRath worked out Monday and will work again Tuesday with Titans strength coach Steve Watterson. Coach Jeff Fisher plans to work McRath back into practice on special teams and defense. McRath worked with the first-team defense at outside linebacker most of the offseason and much of training camp at that spot before his snaps tapered off before his suspension took effect.

"How much he'll play, I don't know. Understand he may be a little rusty," Fisher said.

The 'madness' set to begin for Heat

MIAMI (AP)—It's a preseason game, so it doesn't count. Except, perhaps, to LeBron James.

When the Miami Heat open the preseason at home against the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday, it'll mark the first time James will play before 19,000 or so of his newest fans. Predictably, there's a higher-than-usual level of interest, especially after a summer where Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh and James decided to team up in Miami.

Tickets were being resold for more than $250 on some online sites, even though the game isn't sold out. Two television crews are coming to broadcast the game, and even the some of the Pistons are saying they're looking forward to this exhibition more than usual.

"We're ready to play the game," said James, the two-time reigning NBA MVP who'll don a uniform other than Cleveland's for the first time in his professional career. "We're going to let the game do a lot of the talking. We know we've got to answer a lot of questions every day from you guys, but when we get out on the court, it's all business."

So while the atmosphere may be playoff-caliber, the game will likely be anything but.

The Heat plan to use as many of their 19 available players as possible, the Pistons will likely take a similar approach, and suffice to say, neither team will likely be calling plays down the stretch like it's a Game 7.

"Get there early," Wade said. "Not planning on being on the court too long."

For home Heat preseason games in Miami two seasons ago, the announced attendances were 13,253 and 11,041. Last year, the crowds were 10,064 and 10,096.

It's unknown if all 19,600 seats will be sold by game time Tuesday, but given how the Heat distributed 13,000 tickets to the welcome party for Wade, Bosh and James in less than one hour on July 9, chances are there'll be a demand by tip-off.

"The energy coming from the crowd, their emotion, it's going to boost our energy and our emotions," Heat forward Udonis Haslem said. "But we still understand that it's a preseason game. We're not going to do everything right. We have some kinks to work out and this is the time to do it."

The hype isn't limited to those in Miami.

Some of the Pistons can't wait to see what all the fuss is about, either.

"Everybody can't wait," said guard Richard Hamilton. "I think the whole NBA, the fans, everybody's excited about what they got in Miami and they can't wait to see how those guys play together."

Pistons center Ben Wallace said he followed the summer personnel moves that some simply called LeBronathon—"How can you not pay attention?" Wallace asked—and knows it'll be a most unusual scene for a preseason game that awaits Detroit on Tuesday.

"Of course, some guys are going to go in there and try to make a statement," Wallace said. "That's the nature of the business. If you don't, you're not a competitor. Everybody's going to go to Miami is going to want to put their best effort out. Those guys should know people are going to be shooting at them."

Make no mistake, the Heat are taking it seriously.

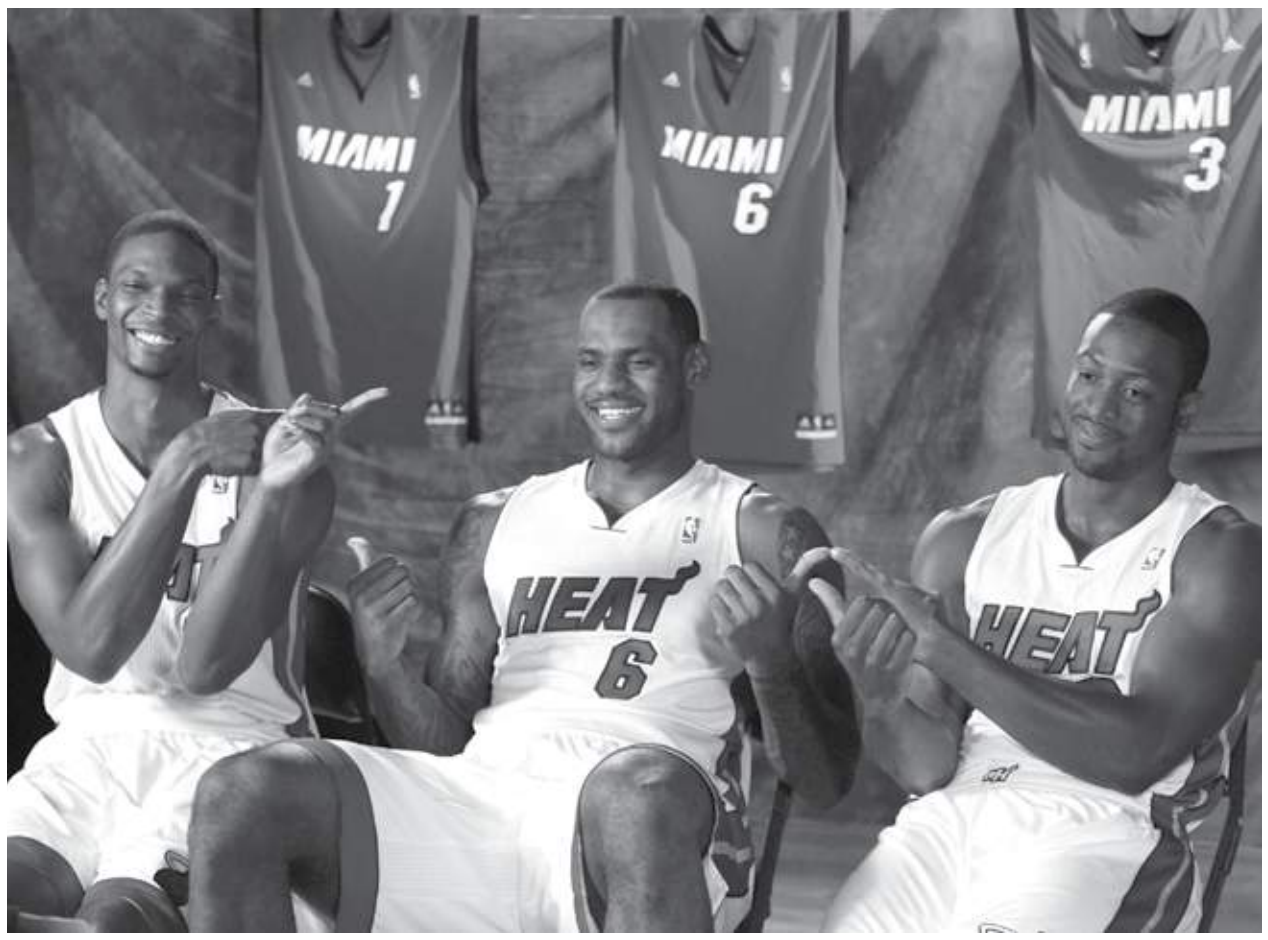
There's plenty of personnel issues that remain unsettled—Carlos Arroyo will likely start at point guard on Tuesday and Joel Anthony at center, although neither has been anointed as the first-stringer going into the season at those spots—and Heat coach Erik Spoelstra knows he'll have some tough calls to make later this month.

"I want these guys to enjoy it," Spoelstra said. "As much of a reward as we can give them playing in front of our home fans, I want them to do that. I want them to play the right way, the way we've been trying to establish this week, but they've been working extremely hard. I think they're just looking forward to playing against someone else right now."

Monday marked the first time the Heat practiced together in Miami this season. They returned Sunday from nearly a week of training camp—"the most competitive, intense camp I've seen since I can remember," Spoelstra said—at Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base in Florida's Panhandle.

Tuesday may show how much work truly got done at camp.

"It'll be fun to see the progress that we've made," Wade said.



This Sept. 27, 2010, file photo shows Miami Heat players, from left, Chris Bosh, LeBron James, and Dwyane Wade during Media Day activities in Coral Gables, Fla. A national TV audience and an anticipated sellout crowd is expected to watch the Heat on Tuesday night, Oct. 5, 2010. For a preseason game, no less. Such is the lure of seeing LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh together for an exhibition against Detroit. AP

A day after season, 3 big league managers fired

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Mets, Milwaukee and Pittsburgh gave their managers the boot Monday, firing them after disappointing seasons with underperforming teams.

The mediocre Mets got rid of manager Jerry Manuel along with general manager Omar Minaya after the team's fourth consecutive season in which the high-payroll team failed to make the playoffs.

Ken Macha was officially dismissed by the Brewers after consecutive losing seasons that following their 2008 postseason appearance as the NL wild card.

John Russell was booted by the penurious Pirates after 299 defeats in three seasons, which extended the woebegone franchise's consecutive losing years to a major league record 18.

That raised the total of managers losing their jobs this year to eight.

"The bottom line is to win the games. If you don't win games, they're going to get somebody in there with a different voice and try to get the guys to listen to it," Macha said. "When you get these jobs, it's just a matter of time before there is a change."

Hampered by injuries for the second straight year following a pair of late-season collapses, the Mets finished fourth in the NL East at 79-83, 18 games behind division-winning Philadelphia. That despite a $133 million opening-day payroll, baseball's fifth-highest.

In Manuel's first full season, the Mets were 70-92.

"The last four years have been the most painful to me," Mets owner Fred Wilpon said.

Wilpon said he, son Jeff and team president Saul Katz are not capable of making baseball decisions and the new GM will have full autonomy. The Wilpons insisted Minaya had that autonomy, but agents and team officials throughout baseball have said that Jeff meddles in player-related business.

"Jeff's responsibility is not to pick baseball players," Fred said, while praising his son's work.

Russell was given a stripped-down roster, then blamed for records of 67-95 in 2008, 62-99 in 2009 and 57-105 this season. The only other manager in the Pirates' 124-season history with so many losses in so few seasons was Fred Haney, who was 163-299 from 1953-55.

Pittsburgh's payroll was a big league-low $35 million at the start of the season.

"We asked John Russell and his staff to compete against some incredible odds," general manager Neal Huntington said. "We've turned the club over in three years. I'm not shy about taking responsibility for the record. It's not the manager's record. The won-lost record at the major league level goes beyond just the manager.

The 60-year-old Macha was 157-167 in two losing seasons. He took over the Brewers without CC Sabathia and Ben Sheets, who left as free agents.

"I just told him that we felt we didn't win here, we didn't meet our expectations and whether our expectations are realistic or not, that's probably what we have to look at," general manager Doug Melvin said. "I think he understood and then got in his car and headed home."

In other moves:

■ Cincinnati gave manager Dusty Baker a two-year contract extension through 2012 after the Reds reached the playoffs for the first time in 15 years.

■ Arizona gave interim manager Kirk Gibson the permanent job, and said interim GM Jerry Dipoto will be vice president of scouting and player development under new GM Kevin Towers.

■ Cleveland completed its front office transition by promoting GM Mark Shapiro to team president and promoting assistant GM Chris Antonetti to GM.

Jamal Crawford hoping for new deal with Hawks

ATLANTA (AP)—Jamal Crawford says every game in his first season in Atlanta felt like a concert.

Now the winner of the NBA's Sixth Man Award last season is hoping for more than one encore with the Hawks.

Crawford will be an unrestricted free agent after the season. He had a quick answer when asked what he's looking for.

"What do I want? I want to be here," Crawford said at the start of the Hawks' training camp.

"I love being here. I LOVE being here. I had a ball every time. I felt like I was at a concert performing every time I played here. It was just a lot of fun."

Despite that declaration of love for the Hawks, Crawford's future with the team is in doubt. Atlanta re-signed Joe Johnson to a six-year deal worth more than $123 million in the offseason, and they made Jordan Crawford the team's first-round draft pick.

Jamal Crawford, Johnson and Jordan Crawford are all shooting guards. Jamal Crawford says he understands the business side of the game, as the depth at the position may make it difficult for the team to re-sign the 10-year veteran.

Hawks general manager Rick Sund said the good news is Jamal Crawford, like Johnson and the team's other recent free agents, wants to remain with the team.

"The nice thing is we've got a lot of players on our team the last four of five years who are free agents and they've wanted to stay here," Sund said after Monday's practice.

"That's good. I always look at that as a positive."

Sund wouldn't comment on Crawford's contract status, but he noted the organization has been aggressive in keeping the team together.

"The organization the last few years has done an outstanding job to retain players who have become free agents, and a lot of that is because the players have wanted to remain here and we've been financially competitive with the other teams," Sund said.

This season's talks are more complicated as the NBA its players' association try to agree on a new collective bargaining agreement.

"The CBA, there's no telling what the cap will be and that's everything," Crawford said. "That's very important."

Crawford said he understands his desire to re-sign with Atlanta doesn't mean his wish will be granted.

"To be at this point right now is interesting," he said. "It's definitely an interesting situation, but I'm just playing the cards I've been dealt. I'll go from there.

"If I move forward and I'm not here or whatever happens, I understand. I know it's a business. As long as I'm here I'm going to try to help."

Crawford has been slowed by a sore lower back as the Hawks prepare for the first preseason game against Memphis on Thursday night.

Crawford averaged 18 points, 3.0 assists and 31 minutes despite not starting a game. He ranked 29th in the league in scoring and first among players who did not start

EUROPE

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par to McDowell that gave Europe the 14 1/2 points it needed to take back the cup.

It was the first time since 1991 that the Ryder Cup was decided by the final singles match, a thriller made possible by the Americans getting big wins from their best players, and a stunning comeback by 21-year-old rookie Rickie Fowler.

Leave it to McDowell to cap off a great year—for himself in the U.S. Open, for all of Europe in the Ryder Cup.

Under far greater pressure than he felt at Pebble Beach, McDowell could barely keep his hands steady on his 6-iron from 181 yards to hit the shot in the 16th hole. And he couldn't hold back his emotions on the 17th, when the match ended with his 3-and-1 victory.

Neither could Mahan.

"That birdie on 16 was huge," Mahan said, fighting back tears. "He beat me."

That was all he could say before bowing his head. This, from the player who delivered the most crucial putt two years ago Valhalla in a U.S. victory.

Such a heart-stopping finish salvaged what had been a drab week at the Ryder Cup, with two big rain delays that forced a revamped schedule and led to the first Monday finish in Ryder Cup history.

Under a beautiful blue sky in Wales, all was forgotten.

Memories of mud and umbrellas were replaced by Fowler winning the last three holes with birdies to escape with a half-point, Tiger Woods holing out from the fairway for eagle and not even knowing it, Miguel Angel Jimenez finally playing a Ryder Cup on home soil and winning a singles match for the first time.

Ultimately, this was about team—and Europe was the best again.

"We've won nine of the last 13," Luke Donald said. "We're starting to get down to that word 'dominance.'"

The Americans have not won the Ryder Cup away from home since 1993, although this was their best effort since then. For the longest time, it didn't look as though it would come down to the McDowell and Mahan, the anchors of this singles session.

"Graeme McDowell was put there for a good reason—he's full of confidence and that showed," European captain Colin Montgomerie said. "That birdie on 16 was just quite unbelievable. Quite unbelievable."

McDowell saw mostly European blue on the boards and figured his match wouldn't matter. Then came a swift switch to red, and as he glanced at a leaderboard off the 10th green, he had a sick feeling.

"I hoped that I wasn't going to be needed," McDowell said. "At that point, I got extremely nervous, and coming down the stretch there, I've never felt nerves like it in my life.

"The U.S. Open felt like a back nine with my dad back at Portrush compared to that."

That was due to a resurgence by the Americans. Woods holed out for eagle during a seven-hole stretch that he played in 7-under par. Steve Stricker won the opening match and Phil Mickelson built a big lead to win late. Jeff Overton, the first American to make the Ryder Cup team without a tour victory, won three straight holes to beat Ross Fisher.

Then came Fowler, the first PGA Tour rookie to play in the Ryder Cup, making 15-foot birdie putts on the 17th and 18th holes to scratch out a half-point against Edoardo Molinari and making the Americans believe for the first time all day they could win.

That gave them 13 1/2 points, and they only needed a halve in the last match to retain the cup. Just as Fowler was being mobbed by his teammates, Mahan made a nervy birdie putt on the 15th to cut McDowell's lead to 1 up.

That's when McDowell channeled his nerves into a putt he won't forget. What soon followed were more showers—only these came from bottles of champagne sprayed in every direction.

"It's been the best week of my life," said Rory McIlroy, who holed a 5-foot par putt on the 18th hole to earn a half-point against Stewart Cink that turned out to be crucial.

Montgomerie is renowned for a career missing only a major. This felt like one, maybe even better.

"This is one of the finest moments of my golfing—wait a minute—this IS the greatest moment of my golfing career," he said.

Europe thrives on winning the Ryder Cup, yet this year went beyond the matches. McDowell won the U.S. Open, and Martin Kaymer of Germany won the PGA Championship, the first time two Europeans have won majors in the same year since 1999.

For U.S. captain Corey Pavin, it was a week where everything seemed to go wrong, from forgetting to introduce to Cink at the opening ceremony to rain suits that malfunctioned to pairings that blew up on him.

That changed in a two-hour window that shifted momentum, and almost the Ryder Cup, to his side.

"We nearly got there today," he said. "We started off a little slow. We came back hard. We almost got there. I'm very proud of their resolve, of their sportsmanship and their fine play. I can only say it's been an honor and a privilege to call them teammates."

CAVITE

From Page 28

Cavite was hanging on to a one-point lead, 90-80, eight seconds to go in the match, when Rex Yabut trooped to the stripe after getting a foul from Tim Wesley. Yabut, who went 2-for-4 in his previous trips from the foul line, continued to struggle from the free throw area, missing both charities.

After his second miss, there was a scramble for the loose ball with Robert Guiang finally taking the leather and driving to the left baseline. Guiang then stopped his dribble and pulled up for a short jumper, but James Villacrusis was there to swat the ball away.

The leather went out of bounce with a second left on the clock and NMBA got back possession. Facing a catch-and-shoot situation, Sison received the inbound pass, attempted a desperation triple, and missed, giving NMBA an early vacation.

NMBA put up a gallant stand against Cavite, as the former worked its way back into the game after trailing by as much as 13 points in the third period.

The Island Apparel-backed squad even grabbed the lead, 87-85, on a good trailer job from Guiang, who went for a putback after Sison's missed layup in a fastbreak play.

The match went back and fourth before the two teams engaged in a deadlock for the last time, 89-all, 31 second left in the match.

J.R. Barrios then failed to break the tie when he missed an ill-advised triple, while NMBA also faltered on its offensive play when Guiang muffed a shot in the paint.

When Cavite regained possession, John Artates drew a foul and split his charity for his team's one-point lead.

Yabut then had a chance to be the hero of the game, but was turned into a goat, as he failed to connect the pressure-packed charities.

Meanwhile, MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt also advanced to the next round against Cavite after posting a 75-54 win over Bayani-Soul Jazz.

The MAFEA-Bayani tiff in the open division was first played on Sept. 28 and when its continuation was scheduled last Monday night, the latter did not show up, granting the former the automatic victory.

With the loss, Bayani-Soul Jazz joins NMBA in the showers.

MDX-Monsters 84, MAFEA-Ebisuya 78

In the masters division, MDX-Mosters pulled off an 84-78 triumph over MAFEA-Ebisuya.

MDX and MAFEA played a make-up game as their Saturday match was rained out with 34 seconds left in the first half and the former ahead,47-44.

MDX-Monster picked up where it left off in the second half after drawing 20-plus points from Sonny Ebuen and Jun Tabora.

Ebuen, who had 18 markers in the first half, added 10 more for a game-high 28 points, while Tabora also had 10 in the second half, finishing the match with 27.

MDX closed out the first half with a five-point lead, 49-44, and maintained its distance in the third period, 69-61, with Tabora hitting eight markers.

Tabora and company hung on to the lead in the fourth quarter to advance to the second round. Ebisuya dropped to the loser's bracket and must win against Laguna-Moonlight to remain in contention.

First Game

MDX-Monsters 84 – Ebuen 28, Tabora 27, De Guzman 8, Cepeda 6, Trajano 5, Tobias 4, Babauta 2, Garon 2, Sabino 1, Dayrit 1.

MAFEA-Ebisuya 78 – Basilla 20, Moises 20, Vargas 10, Tengco 7, Tudela 6, Cultura 3, Rebuyon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 29-26, 49-44, 69-61, 84-78.

Second Game

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt 75 – Esdrelon 26, Barbo 18, Fernandez 9, Tumaquip 8, M. Capalad 6, W. Capalad 2, Talania 2, Berline 2, Aquino 2.

Bayani-Soul Jazz 54 – L. Pagarao 13, Mangali 11, David 8, Lauron, Taboa 4, J. Pagarao 4, Ong 2, Javier 2, Santos 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-12, 43-28, 60-43, 75-54.

Third Game

Cavite 90 – Barrios 29, Villacrusis 16, B. Montano 10, Hernandez 10, Artates 9, Wesley 6, J. Montano 6, Llagas 2, Umali 2.

NMBA-Island Apparel 89 – Matagolai 26, Abuy 20, Sison 14, Yabut 11, Paraiso 10, Cabrera 4, Mendiola 4.

Scoring by quarters: 22-18, 46-37, 69-64, 90-89.

MHS

From Page 28

47, for a three-peat, led at the end of the first quarter, 9-7. However, the Lady Ayuyus' score was stuck at nine at halftime, allowing the Lady Dolphins to break away with a commanding 28-9 advantage.

Ira Palero led the Dolphins with 21 points and established herself as a dominant force on the defensive end, too. Palero collared most of the rebounds for MHS, creating a lot of second chance baskets down low for the Dolphins.

When Kagman's offense froze in the second quarter, the team was never able to regroup after halftime. Kagman's Mercedes Mesa scored five markers in the third quarter, but six points from Palero thwarted the effort.

Kagman actually showed the ability work the ball around, but with the exception of Mesa, no one else felt obliged to take shots.

With Palero dominating the boards in the paint for MHS, she managed to disrupt the Lady Ayuyus' fastbreak game. The Lady Dolphins virtually doubled Kagman's score heading into the final period, 42-23.

Still Kagman's Mesa refused to give up and scored 12 points in the final period. However, she failed to get help from her teammates all game, as the rest of the Lady Ayuyus appeared deflated after the disaster in the second quarter.

In contrast, Palero had Jaime Mendoza backing her up, as the latter came off the bench in the fourth and delivered nine points. Mendoza finished with 18 points, while Mesa tallied 19 points in the losing effort.

The junior varsity match may have been a low scoring contest, but was still a close game.

Kagman was shut out in the opening period, but it remained in contention as MHS led by only four, 4-0. It remained a nip-and-tuck match at the break, 10-6, for the Lady Dolphins, who drew four points each from Charlene Lizardo and Krizandra Gozon in the first half.

Gozon added five more markers in the third and Lizardo chipped in three to help the Lady Dolphins pull ahead by six, 18-12, heading into the fourth quarter.

Lizardo scored all of the Lady Dolphins' five points in the final period and these were good enough to fend off the Lady Ayuyus.

First Game

MHS 23 – Lizardo 12, Gozon 9, Guevarra 2

Kagman 18 – Ada 6, Halstead 4, Raog 4, Diailug 2, San Nicolas 2

Scoring by quarters: 4-0, 10-6, 18-12, 23-18.

Second Game

MHS 70– Palero 21, Mendoza 18, Jeraldyn Castillo 8, Javier 7, Williams 6, Jeralyn Castillo 4, Abrams 2, Pua 2, Rivera 2

Kagman 43 – Mesa 19, Mizutani 12, Fiden 7, Cruz 2, Jetly 2, Faisao 1

Scoring by quarters: 7-9, 28-9, 44-23, 70-43.

MIEKO

From Page 28

participating in XTERRA World will also give her and the Commonwealth the opportunity to lure athletes/visitors for another triathlon event in the CNMI—the Tagaman Triathlon.

A decrease in number of off-island participants in XTERRA Saipan and Tagaman Triathlon was seen in the past several years due to economic problems.

Next year, Carey hopes the number of off-island participants in both XTERRA Saipan and Tagaman will be more than last year's.

This month's XTERRA World will feature athletes from 20 countries and 40 states. The off-road race will have more than 75 professionals vying for the $105,00 total prize money and over 400 amateurs aiming for other perks.

XTERRA World participants will be seen in a one-hour TV special and on race day, triathlon enthusiasts and the athletes' supporters can log-on to www.xterramaui.com for live updates from Maui.

XTERRA World will kick off at 9am (Sunday/Oct.24, 1am Saipan time) with the 1.5-kilometer swim leg to take place in the waters off Maluaka Beach fronting the famous Makena Beach and Golf Resort.

Next up is the lung-busting 32-kilometer mountain bike that climbs 3,000 feet up and down the lower slopes of Haleakala. Triathletes are not allowed to ride the bike course before race day.

The final stage of the grueling race, the 12-kilometer trail run, will be another challenge for participants as they have to run through lava rock, forest trails, and beach sand heading back to the Makena Beach and Golf Resort.

Once the race starts, all eyes will be on defending champions Julie Dibens of the United Kingdom and Spain's Eneko Llanos. Dibens won the event for the third straight year after timing in at 2:56:42 in 2009 and finishing first in the women's pro division.

Llanos recorded the race's fastest time at 2:37:22, beating France's Nicolas Lebrun (2:38:17) and Austria's Michael Weiss (2:40:24). XTERRA Saipan champion Renata Bucher finished only 14th in the women's division after having a bike crash.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	3	1	0	.750	106	61
New England	3	1	0	.750	131	96
Miami	2	2	0	.500	66	92
Buffalo	0	4	0	.000	61	125
South						
Houston	3	1	0	.750	108	102
Jacksonville	2	2	0	.500	71	111
Indianapolis	2	2	0	.500	117	92
Tennessee	2	2	0	.500	98	68
North						
Baltimore	3	1	0	.750	61	55
Pittsburgh	3	1	0	.750	86	50
Cincinnati	2	2	0	.500	79	78
Cleveland	1	3	0	.250	68	77
West						
Kansas City	3	0	0	1.000	68	38
San Diego	2	2	0	.500	113	71
Denver	2	2	0	.500	87	85
Oakland	1	3	0	.250	76	107

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East						
Washington	2	2	0	.500	73	79
N.Y. Giants	2	2	0	.500	72	88
Philadelphia	2	2	0	.500	95	79
Dallas	1	2	0	.333	54	53
South						
Atlanta	3	1	0	.750	93	60
New Orleans	3	1	0	.750	79	72
Tampa Bay	2	1	0	.667	50	59
Carolina	0	4	0	.000	46	87
North						
Chicago	3	1	0	.750	69	68
Green Bay	3	1	0	.750	106	73
Minnesota	1	2	0	.333	43	38
Detroit	0	4	0	.000	82	106
West						
Arizona	2	2	0	.500	58	118
St. Louis	2	2	0	.500	77	52
Seattle	2	2	0	.500	75	77
San Francisco	0	4	0	.000	52	103

Monday's Game

New England 41, Miami 14

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mieko XTERRA World Fundraising Race

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the kids duathlon, a side event in the Mieko XTERRA World Fundraising Race, pose for a group photo with tournament organizer Mieko Carey.

Mountain bike first finisher Butch Sublemente.

Tyce Mister makes his way to the finish line.

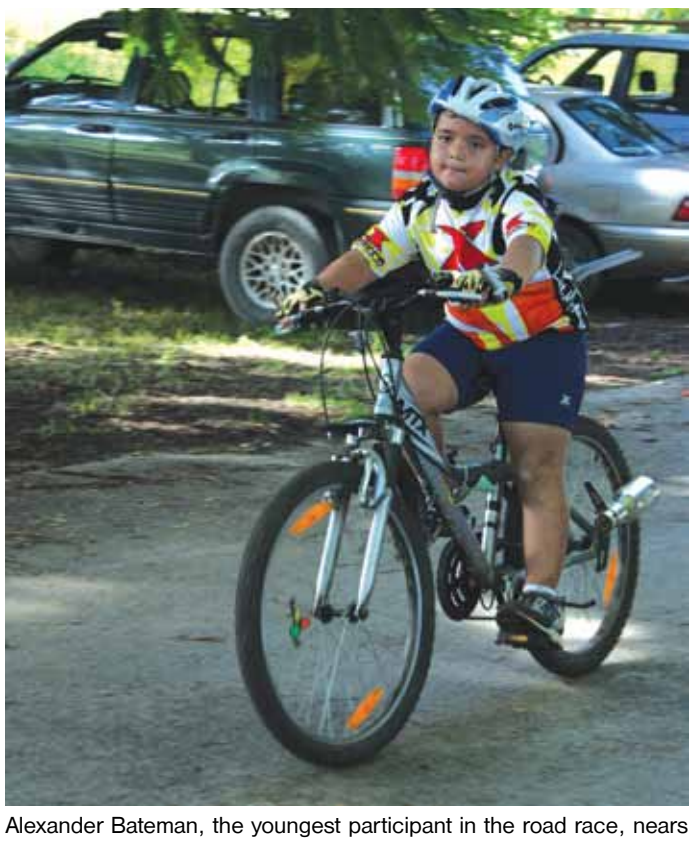
Arnel Cruz leads Russ Quinn going into the finish line of the mountain bike race.

From left, Lewie Tenorio, Kieran Daly, and Butch Sublemente pose for a group photo after the less than an hour race.

A group of riders cool off after the mountain bike race in muddy and slippery trails.

Joshua Berger and three other bikers enter the Paupau Beach compound.

Top woman finisher Jackie Van Dam completed the mountain bike race in exactly an hour.



Alexander Bateman, the youngest participant in the road race, nears the finish line.

Lone road race participant Melanie Daly nears completion of the event.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Europe wins thrilling Ryder Cup

AP

Europe's Sergio Garcia, left, Miguel Angel Jimenez, center, and Jose Maria Olazabal celebrate with the trophy after Europe won the 2010 Ryder Cup golf tournament at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, Wales, Monday, Oct. 4, 2010.

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

NEWPORT, Wales (AP)—The pressure was more than Graeme McDowell wanted.

The heartbreak was more than Hunter Mahan could handle.

The longest Ryder Cup in history came down to the very last match Monday at Celtic Manor, exposing the rawest emotions found in golf and delivering a moment that defines a career—even for a U.S. Open champion.

Clinging to a 1-up lead with three holes to play, with Europe needing his match to reclaim the precious gold trophy, McDowell gently sent his 15-foot putt toward the cup and set off a ground-shaking roar when it dropped for birdie.

"The best putt I've hit in my life," McDowell said.

One hole later, Mahan was well short on the par-3 17th, flubbed a chip and conceded a

See EUROPE on Page 26

Cavite survives NMBA in first round

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Cavite eliminated Northern Marianas Bartenders Association-Island Apparel after nailing a 90-89 thriller during their playoff game in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League last Monday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Two missed free throws cost NMBA a slot to the next round, while Cavite preserved the win after a big defensive stop in the closing seconds of the game.

See CAVITE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Cavite's J.R. Barrios drives to the basket and is fouled by NMBA-Island Apparel's Rex Yabut, left, during their playoff game in the UFO caging last Monday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

MHS sweeps Kagman in MISO opener

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Marianas High School swept Kagman High School during the opening of the 2010-2011 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Basketball League last Monday at the MHS Gymnasium.

In the junior varsity division, the Lady Dolphins edged the Lady Ayuyus, 23-18, while in the varsity division MHS stunned the defending champion, 70-43, to start the league with a bang.

Kagman, which defeated MHS in last year's finals, 56-

See MHS on Page 26

The MHS Lady Dolphins' Ira Palero pulls up for a shot against Kagman High School defenders during the opening of the MISO caging last Monday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Mieko to promote XTERRA Saipan in Hawaii

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

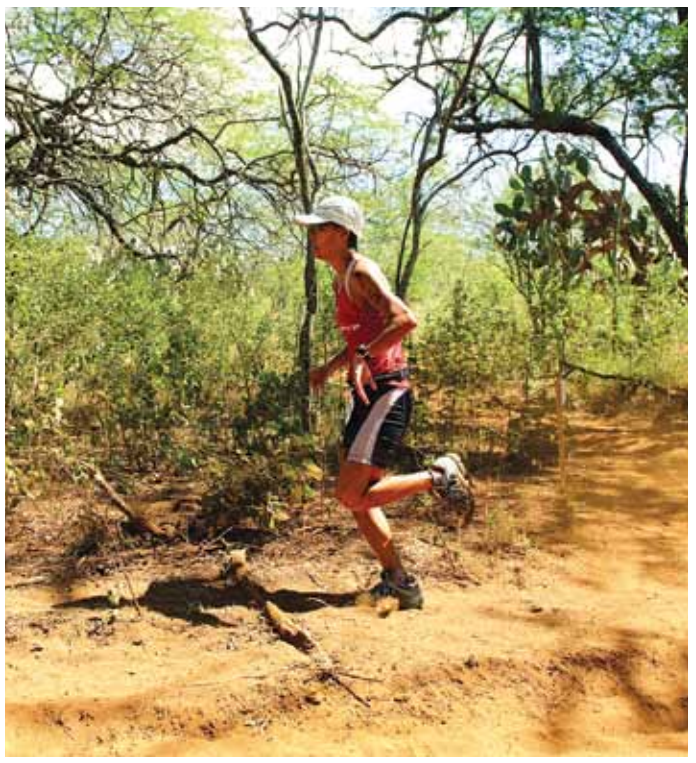
Mieko Carey will be on a mission when she competes in the 2010 XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii later this month.

She will spread the word on the XTERRA Saipan Championship to more than 500 triathletes participating in the Oct. 24 event.

"I will try to encourage as many people to come here next year for the 2010 XTERRA Saipan Championships," said Carey, who will be leaving for Hawaii on Oct. 19.

Carey added she values more the help she can give in promoting the biggest off-road triathlon race in the CNMI than the competition in Maui. She also said

See MIEKO on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mieko Carey runs along the trail during last year's XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii.